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CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE CONVENTION

Third periodic reports of States parties

MEXICO*

* For the initial report submitted by the Government of Mexico, see CEDAW/C/5/Add.2; for its consideration by the Committee, see CEDAW/C/SR.13 and CEDAW/C/SR.17, and Official Records of the General Assembly, thirty-ninth session, Supplement No. 45 (A/39/45), Volume I, paras. 67-89; for the second periodic report submitted by the Government of Mexico, see CEDAW/C/13/Add.10 and CEDAW/C/13/Add.10/Amend.1; for its consideration by the Committee, see CEDAW/C/SR.163, and Official Records of the General Assembly, forty-fifth session, Supplement No. 38 (A/45/38), paras. 350-369.

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THIRD PERIODIC REPORT OF MEXICO ON THE CONVENTION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

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THIRD PERIODIC REPORT OF MEXICO ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

1. Since the second periodic report of Mexico (document CEDAW/C/13/Add.10 dated 18 February 1988) was presented - with an update to December 1989 - to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its ninth session held at New York in January 1990, the preparation of the third periodic report, which should cover the years 1989 to 1991, has been postponed until the results of the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census initiated in March 1990 became known.

2. The Government of Mexico, as a State party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and in compliance with article 18 thereof, accordingly now submits its third periodic report, which covers the period from January 1990 to July 1992.

INTRODUCTION

3. Despite the impact of the recession of the last decade, which affected many developing countries, Mexico included, and its adverse consequences as regards the number and quality of opportunites for the integration of Mexican women into national life, the Government of Mexico is continuing to implement policies and measures aimed at improving the standards of living of the population groups most in need, both male and female, particularly the living conditions in rural and deprived urban areas.

4. Aware of the changes and progress that have been brought about in the integration of women into the process of development on a basis of equality with men, the Government of Mexico has made major efforts to illustrate the advances achieved in the pursuit of this policy, by the application of gender-specific criteria.

5. One example of the above efforts is the 1990 national population census, in which the gender category was taken into account in the various areas of national production and development.

6. According to the results of the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990, which have been published by the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics (INEGI), the total number of inhabitants of the Republic of Mexico is 81,249,645, of whom 41,355,676 (50.9 per cent) are female and 39,893,969 (49.1 per cent) are male. This means that there are 96 males to every 100 females (see annexes 1 and 2). These figures show that the country's population increased over the last two decades at an average annual rate of 2.6 per cent, which is lower than that recorded for the period 1950-1970, i.e., 3.2 per cent.

7. The population is split geographically into 31 federal states and the Federal District. Mexico State has the highest concentration of inhabitants at 12.08 per cent of the total, followed by the Federal District, where 10.14 per cent of the population resides. By comparison, the states of Baja California Sur, Colima, Quintana Roo, Campeche, Aguascalientes and Tlaxcala account for less than 1.00 per cent (see annex 2).

8. According to the results of the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 71.3 per cent of the total Mexican population live in 2,586 urban localities (with over 2,500 inhabitants), the remaining 28.7 per cent residing in 156,602 rural localities (with under 2,500 inhabitants) (see annex 3). As indicated by INEGI, this shows that the population trends of concentration in the major towns and dispersal into small localities are continuing in the country.

9. The urban and rural population breakdown by federal state exhibits significant differences. Indeed, while the urban population in the Federal District and in Nuevo León exceeds 90.0 per cent, in the states of Oaxaca and Chiapas it is just 39.5 and 40.4 per cent respectively (see annex 4).

10. It is of interest to note that, as the size of locality increases, the sex ratio (i.e. the number of males to every 100 females) decreases, whereas, as the size of locality decreases, the number of males increases. As will be seen in the sections dealing with employment and rural women, the major towns continue to be economic and social magnets for women (see annex 5).

11. As regards the age-group structure of the population, Mexico is still a young country, 50.23 per cent of the total inhabitants being under 19 years of age (see annex 6). Nevertheless, the beginnings of an "ageing" process can now be observed, since the base of the population pyramid (age group from 0 to 4 years) is tending to narrow, compared with the population pyramids for the 1950s and 1970s.

12. Mexico is a multicultural country. According to the data compiled during the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 5,282,347 people speak one of the indigenous languages, this figure constituting 7.5 per cent of the total population over five years of age. Out of this total, 50.22 per cent are female and 49.78 per cent are male (see annexes 7 and 8).

13. The indigenous population is distributed irregularly over the entire national territory. The states having the highest percentage of such inhabitants are Chiapas, Guerrero, Durango and Oaxaca (32.0, 28.9, 20.8 and 18.9 per cent, respectively). At the other extreme are Coahuila, the Federal District, Tamaulipas, Nuevo León and Morelos, which contain less than 1.0 per cent of the indigenous population.

14. As regards the number of indigenous languages spoken in the country, the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census recorded a total of 92. The predominant language is Náhuatl, which is spoken by 22.7 per cent of the population aged five years and over, followed by Maya (13.5 per cent), Mixteco (7.3 per cent), Zapoteco (7.2 per cent) and Otomí (5.3 per cent) (see annex 9).

15. Of the total inhabitants aged five years and over who speak an indigenous language, 80.23 per cent are bilingual, i.e. they also speak Spanish, while 15.83 per cent are monolingual. In the case of indigenous women, the percentages are slightly higher: 74.84 per cent bilingual and 20.29 per cent monolingual, while the corresponding percentages in the case of males are 85.67 and 11.33 per cent respectively (see annex 10).

16. The report now being submitted includes details of current programmes and activities aimed at improving the status of Mexican women and achieving their equal participation in the country's economic and social development. The report has been structured in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; it should nevertheless be noted that most of the programmes and activities that are outlined form part of the National Development Plan (PND), i.e., they were not designed or planned with the sole objective of specifically implementing any of the articles of the Convention but are part of the entire range of measures included in the development policy pursued by the Government of Mexico.

17. The first part of this report describes the National Programme for Women in Solidarity, an extensive and ambitious scheme embarked upon by the Government of Mexico to improve the living conditions of women in deprived urban areas and rural areas who are living in situations of poverty or extreme poverty. The principles, aims and goals of the Programme for Women in Solidarity coincide with a number of the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women that are being implemented.

* * * * *

Annex 1

Total population by federal state and sex

STATE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
National total	81,249,645	39,893,969	41,355,676
Aguascalientes	719,659	350,218	369,441
Baja California	1,660,855	832,090	828,765
Baja California Sur	317,764	161,833	155,931
Campeche	535,185	268,772	266,413
Coahuila	1,972,340	979,097	993,243
Colima	428,510	213,543	215,967
Chiapas	3,210,496	1,604,773	1,605,723
Chihuahua	2,441,873	1,213,302	1,228,571
Federal District	8,235,744	3,939,911	4,295,833
Durango	1,349,378	664,766	684,612
Guanajuato	3,982,593	1,926,735	2,055,858
Guerrero	2,620,637	1,282,220	1,338,417
Hidalgo	1,888,366	929,138	959,228
Jalisco	5,302,689	2,564,892	2,737,797
México	9,815,795	4,834,549	4,981,246
Michoacán	3,548,199	1,718,763	1,829,436
Morelos	1,195,059	583,785	611,274
Nayarit	824,643	411,057	413,586
Nuevo León	3,098,736	1,542,664	1,556,072
Oaxaca	3,019,560	1,477,438	1,542,122
Puebla	4,126,101	2,008,531	2,117,570
Querétaro	1,051,235	516,168	535,067
Quintana Roo	493,277	254,908	238,369
San Luis Potosí	2,003,187	987,315	1,015,872
Sinaloa	2,204,054	1,101,621	1,102,433
Sonora	1,823,606	915,088	908,518
Tabasco	1,501,744	749,982	751,762
Tamaulipas	2,249,581	1,111,698	1,137,883
Tlaxcala	761,277	375,130	386,147
Veracruz	6,228,239	3,077,427	3,150,812
Yucatán	1,362,940	673,892	689,048
Zacatecas	1,276,323	623,663	652,660

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 2

Percentage breakdown of total population
by sex and sex ratio by federal state

STATE	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE	S.R.*
National total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	96
Aguascalientes	0.89%	0.88%	0.89%	95
Baja California	2.04%	2.09%	2.00%	100
Baja California Sur	0.39%	0.41%	0.38%	104
Campeche	0.66%	0.67%	0.64%	101
Coahuila	2.43%	2.45%	2.40%	99
Colima	0.53%	0.53%	0.52%	98
Chiapas	3.95%	4.02%	3.88%	100
Chihuahua	3.01%	3.04%	2.97%	99
Federal District	10.14%	9.88%	10.39%	92
Durango	1.66%	1.67%	1.66%	97
Guanajuato	4.90%	4.83%	4.97%	94
Guerrero	3.23%	3.21%	3.24%	96
Hidalgo	2.32%	2.33%	2.32%	97
Jalisco	6.53%	6.43%	6.62%	94
México	12.08%	12.12%	12.04%	97
Michoacán	4.37%	4.31%	4.42%	94
Morelos	1.47%	1.46%	1.48%	96
Nayarit	1.01%	1.03%	1.00%	99
Nuevo León	3.81%	3.87%	3.76%	99
Oaxaca	3.72%	3.70%	3.73%	96
Puebla	5.08%	5.03%	5.12%	95
Querétaro	1.29%	1.29%	1.29%	96
Quintana Roo	0.61%	0.64%	0.58%	107
San Luis Potosí	2.47%	2.47%	2.46%	97
Sinaloa	2.71%	2.76%	2.67%	100
Sonora	2.24%	2.29%	2.20%	101
Tabasco	1.85%	1.88%	1.82%	100
Tamaulipas	2.77%	2.79%	2.75%	98
Tlaxcala	0.94%	0.94%	0.93%	97
Veracruz	7.67%	7.71%	7.62%	98
Yucatán	1.68%	1.69%	1.67%	98
Zacatecas	1.57%	1.56%	1.58%	96

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

* Sex ratio: Number of males to every 100 females.

Annex 3

Percentage breakdown of localities and population of the Republic of Mexico by size of locality

Size of locality	Number of localities	Percentage	Population	Percentage
1-99	108,307	69.2	2,190,339	2.7
100-499	32,244	20.6	7,760,320	9.6
500-999	8,515	5.4	5,922,495	7.3
1,000-2,499	4,950	3.2	7,416,770	9.1
2,500-4,999	1,364	0.9	4,647,566	5.8
5,000-9,999	609	0.4	4,266,294	5.2
10,000-19,999	293	0.2	4,086,017	5.0
20,000-49,999	167	0.1	5,075,188	6.2
50,000-99,999	55	-	3,854,850	4.7
100,000-499,999	77	-	18,233,313	22.4
500,000 and over	21	-	17,836,493	22.0
Total	156,602	100.0	81,249,645	100.0

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 4

Percentage breakdown of urban and rural population
by federal state

Federal state	Urban population	Rural population*
Aguascalientes	76.5	23.5
Baja California	90.9	9.1
Baja California Sur	78.3	21.7
Campeche	70.0	30.0
Coahuila	86.1	13.9
Colima	83.3	16.7
Chiapas	40.4	**59.6**
Chihuahua	77.4	22.6
Federal District	99.7	0.3
Durango	57.4	**42.6**
Guanajuato	63.4	**36.6**
Guerrero	52.3	**47.7**
Hidalgo	44.8	**55.2**
Jalisco	81.9	18.1
México	84.4	15.6
Michoacán	61.6	**38.4**
Morelos	85.6	14.4
Nayarit	62.1	37.9
Nuevo León	92.0	8.0
Oaxaca	39.5	**60.5**
Puebla	64.3	**35.7**
Querétaro	59.7	**40.3**
Quintana Roo	73.9	26.1
San Luis Potosí	55.2	**44.8**
Sinaloa	64.1	**35.9**
Sonora	79.1	20.9
Tabasco	49.7	50.3
Tamaulipas	81.1	18.9
Tlaxcala	76.5	23.5
Veracruz	56.2	**43.8**
Yucatán	78.6	21.4
Zacatecas	45.9	54.1

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

* Population of localities with less than 2,500 inhabitants.

Annex 5

Percentage breakdown of total population
by size of location and sex

Size of locality by number of inhabitants	SEX		S.R.*
	Male	Female	
National total	39,893,969 100.0	41,355,676 100.0	96.5
1 to 99	2.8%	2.6%	106.8
100 to 499	9.8%	9.3%	102.4
500 to 999	7.4%	7.2%	100.1
1,000 to 1,999	7.2%	7.0%	98.7
2,000 to 2,499	2.0%	2.0%	97.8
2,500 to 4,999	5.8%	5.7%	97.3
5,000 to 9,999	5.2%	5.2%	96.7
10,000 to 14,999	2.9%	3.0%	95.3
15,000 to 19,999	2.1%	2.1%	94.9
20,000 to 49,999	6.2%	6.3%	94.6
50,000 to 99,999	4.7%	4.8%	94.5
100,000 to 499,999	22.1%	22.7%	93.8
500,000 to 999,999	10.8%	11.1%	94.3
1,000,000 and over	10.9%	11.1%	94.6

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

* Sex ratio: Number of males to every 100 females.

Annex 6

Percentage breakdown of total population and sex ratios by five-year age groups and sex

Age group	Total	Male	Female	S.R.*
0-4	12.55%	12.93%	12.18%	102
5-9	13.00%	13.38%	12.63%	102
10-14	12.79%	13.11%	12.47%	101
15-19	11.89%	11.93%	11.86%	97
20-24	9.64%	9.37%	9.89%	91
25-29	7.88%	7.65%	8.11%	91
30-34	6.63%	6.46%	6.79%	92
35-39	5.64%	5.54%	5.73%	93
40-44	4.30%	4.27%	4.33%	95
45-49	3.66%	3.64%	3.67%	96
50-54	2.95%	2.91%	2.98%	94
55-59	2.33%	2.30%	2.36%	94
60-64	1.98%	1.93%	2.03%	92
65-69	1.46%	1.42%	1.49%	92
70-74	1.02%	0.99%	1.05%	91
75-79	0.73%	0.70%	0.76%	89
80-84	0.49%	0.45%	0.54%	81
85-89	0.28%	0.25%	0.31%	79
90-94	0.11%	0.10%	0.13%	72
95-99	0.05%	0.04%	0.05%	67
100 and over	0.02%	0.02%	0.03%	59
Not specified	0.61%	0.60%	0.61%	95
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	96

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

* Sex ratio: Number of males to every 100 females.

Annex 7

Percentage breakdown of total population aged 5 years and over by sex according to spoken language (indigenous and Spanish)

Sex	Total	Speaking an indigenous language	Speaking Spanish only	Not specified
Total	100.00	7.49	90.85	1.67
Male	100.00	7.62	90.72	1.66
Female	100.00	7.36	90.97	1.67

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 8

Percentage breakdown of total population aged 5 years and over by sex according to spoken language (indigenous and Spanish)

Sex	Total population aged 5 years and over	Speaking an indigenous language				Not speaking an indigenous language	Not specified
		Total	Bilingual	Mono-lingual	Not specified		
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Male	48.88	49.78	53.15	35.63	37.91	48.81	48.69
Female	51.12	50.22	46.85	**64.37**	62.09	51.19	51.31

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 9

Breakdown of population aged 5 years and over speaking an indigenous language in the Republic of Mexico by language type

Type of indigenous language	Percentage
Náhuatl	22.7
Maya	13.5
Mixteco	7.3
Zapoteco	7.2
Otomi	5.3
Tzeltal	4.9
Tzotzil	4.4
Totonaca	3.9
Mazateco	3.2
Chol	2.4
Mazahua	2.4
Huasteco	2.3
Chinanteco	2.0
Mixe	1.8
Purhepecha	1.8
Tlapaneco	1.3
Tarahumara	1.0
Zoque	0.8
Mayo	0.7
Tojolabal	0.7
Popoluca	0.6
Chatino	0.5
Amuzgo	0.5
Chontal	0.5
Huichol	0.4
Tepehuan	0.3
Zapoteco Sureño	0.3
Triqui	0.3
Kanjobal	0.3
Mame	0.3
Cuicateco	0.2
Chocho	0.2
Huave	0.2
Cora	0.2
Yaqui	0.2
Chontal de Tabasco	0.2
Tepehua	0.2
Other languages	0.7
Insufficiently specified	4.3
Total	100.0

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 10

Percentage breakdown of total population aged 5 years and over speaking an indigenous language by sex according to bilingual and monolingual status

Sex	Population aged 5 years and over speaking an indigenous language	Bilingual population	Monolingual population	Not specified
Total	100.00	80.23	15.83	3.94
Male	100.00	85.67	11.33	3.00
Female	100.00	74.84	20.29	4.87

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

PART I. GENERAL

18. In its initial report, the Government of Mexico provided the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) with details of those statutory provisions contained in the Political Constitution and in secondary legislation that guarantee equal rights for and non-discrimination against women in all aspects of national life.

19. As indicated in the first periodic report (presented in January 1990), the policy pursued by the Government of Mexico with regard to the validation of Mexican women's rights has been reiterated in various forums by the President of the Republic, Mr. Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who has stressed the need for women to participate fully in the country's process of modernization so that we achieve a more equal nation, an enriched democracy and a life that is fuller from the human viewpoint, by making greater use of women's abilities in order to fully exploit the country's potential for development.

20. As was stated at the time of presentation of the first periodic report, although women's participation in the various spheres of national life is increasing, major differences and inequalities continue to exist in the number and quality of opportunities available to women in employment, in education and within political and civic organizations.

21. For this reason, the National Development Plan for 1989-1994 included a specific section on women's participation, which recognized the need to encourage women to become involved in all action undertaken to improve the living standards of the population, and in the implementation of development plans and programmes, particularly those aimed at combating extreme poverty and those designed to enable women to increase their skills in order to engage in productive activities for the benefit of their families and their communities.

22. The National Development Plan accordingly lays down that the National Solidarity Programme is to be the instrument for mounting a head-on attack against extreme poverty, and that its activities will be based on dialogue and coordinated efforts in defining priorities and the methods for executing the development projects.

23. In accordance with these broad policy guidelines, the National Programme for Women in Solidarity was set up with the aim of targeting some 9 million women living in extreme poverty. The starting point for its design was the recognition that women in such circumstances need society's wholehearted support in matters of health and education so that they have greater opportunities for access to paid employment or for acquiring skills to undertake productive activities, in order to enable them to meet their own and their families' basic needs and attain a better quality of life.

National Programme for Women in Solidarity

24. In line with the basic strategy of the National Solidarity Programme, the prime goal of the Programme for Women in Solidarity is to combat poverty and inequality; its activities accordingly focus on the organization of women's groups with a view to engendering comprehensive community development by raising standards of health, education, nutrition and housing and levels of income.

25. The Programme views women as valid contributors to society and as active agents of change. It targets the female population in rural, desert and indigenous areas and in the most deprived low-income urban sectors. To this end, it has set itself the following general objectives:

- Initiating schemes to help eradicate extreme poverty and inequality;

- Promoting activities to deal with the specific problems of poor and disadvantaged women, to achieve recognition of the work they perform, and to enhance their participation in social, economic and political life;

- Developing comprehensive projects designed to reduce women's working hours and workload;

- According priority attention to those subregions and groups where standards of nutrition, health, housing and education are critical;

- Promoting projects aimed at raising income levels and enhancing the social well-being of women and their communities in areas of extreme poverty;

- Assisting communities where there is increasing population repulsion, with the aims of halting this migratory process and of alleviating the workload of the women who remain within their communities; and

- Promoting the development within society of organizational structures, legal and judicial entities, social facilities and the necessary infrastructure to provide widespread support for the fullest and most democratic integration of women into the economic, political, social and cultural life of their communities, and hence of the country.

26. To achieve these objectives, the implementation of the Programme's activities is based on a participatory planning methodology. This methodology combines the processes of self-diagnosis and social extension, which encourages the women to become involved in the projects to be carried out, right from the time of their formulation.

27. Self-diagnosis is undertaken through workshops at which the participants discuss their living conditions as, for example, rural, mixed-race or indigenous women, and their social status as women. This enables them to exchange experiences and to define, as a group, the particular project in which they wish to participate. Following these discussion meetings, women's community committees are set up and the necessary technical, management and accountancy training for the individual projects is initiated.

28. The projects carried out under the above Programme fall into two categories:

1. Production projects; and

2. Social and service projects.

29. Production projects are designed to generate sources of income for women and their families. Social and service projects aim to alleviate women's daily domestic duties. Examples of this latter category include day-care

facilities, community centres, roads, corn-grinding mills, provision of water supplies and improvements in housing.

30. Once a women's committee has been established in a community, Women in Solidarity takes up its demands and, in conjunction with the women, formulates the relevant social, service or production project. It should be mentioned in this connection that one type of project does not preclude the other type. An organized women's group may embark upon a social and service project which in the medium term it may wish to develop into a production project or vice versa.

31. It should be mentioned that Women in Solidarity sets up a community fund to assist in the establishment of the women's group, which may be based on any organizational structure that the women choose, according to the specific nature of its activities. The fund represents the economic instrument that provides the organized group with the necessary financial resources, which are controlled and administered by the women themselves, to meet their project's requirements.

32. The Programme for Women in Solidarity should not be viewed as a charitable enterprise or as a welfare extension scheme. In fact, during the three and a half years of its existence, the Programme has fostered a process of discussion among women living in conditions of extreme poverty that is encouraging each of them to become actively involved in their communities' development.

33. This process of discussion will undoubtedly result in the establishment of self-managed, community-based organizations conscious of their bearing on the economic and cultural development of the country as a whole.

Activities and achievements between 1989 and 1991

34. The Programme's areas of action and work are illustrated in tables PMS-1 and PMS-2 (included as annexes 1 and 2), which provide the following information:

35. Table PMS-1 shows the number of production projects carried out between 1989 and 1991, categorized as follows:

Workshops: Sewing, product processing, repair of household effects, woodworking, installations, power weaving, shoemaking, instruction in handloom weaving, garment-making, etc.;

Production centres: Handicrafts, beekeeping, packing and bottling, processing of regional confectionery and foodstuffs such as meat, smoked fish or balanced foods, and, according to the records available, brick and tile manufacture, carpet-making, leatherworking, construction of hand-operated mills, water-pumps, etc.;

Community farms: Breeding of fish, poultry, pigs, cattle, goats, quail and rabbits; the produce from these farms is either marketed outside the community or constitutes a source of supply for the community itself;

Tortilla-making establishments: Places for the production of tortillas, a typically Mexican cornmeal pancake that is used as a basis of all cooking in rural and poor urban areas;

Bakeries: Production of bread for sale and consumption within the community or occasionally for external marketing;

Family market gardens: Fruit and vegetable growing, water-based (hydroponic) plant cultivation centres, and mushroom growing, for sale and/or consumption;

Provision stores: Trading centres, particularly useful in remote areas;

Other: Group-feeding kitchens, public laundries, hairdressers and pharmacies;

Public kitchens: Set up for community use.

36. Table PMS-2 shows the number of social and service projects undertaken between 1989 and 1991, comprising:

Mills: Designed mostly for grinding corn to prepare nixtamal dough for making tortillas;

Housing: Home extension, improvement and repair projects, self-help housebuilding projects, etc.;

Recreational facilities: Public parks or gardens, play areas (football and basketball), sites for artistic or theatrical performances, cinema shows, etc.;

Latrines: Activities carried out predominantly in rural areas, including prior information and guidance on minimum standards of health and hygiene;

Water: Excavation work, sinking of wells, construction of earth dykes, and provision of community water supplies;

Other: Public transportation, rehabilitation of monuments and public buildings (hospitals, etc.), community sewing rooms, extension of drainage systems, schools, child-development (day-care) centres, septic tanks, markets, waste-water regeneration, etc.

37. The remaining projects listed in table PMS-2 are self-explanatory.

Geographical coverage 1989-1991

38. In 1989, the Women in Solidarity Programme encompassed 28 states, 439 municipalities and 926 localities in the Republic of Mexico, benefiting 64,001 families in all.

39. In 1990, fewer families benefited from the Programme (48,653) but more women individually received assistance under the Programme, which operated in 31 states, 373 municipalities and 1,010 localities; there was thus an increase in the number of states, a decrease in the number of municipalities and an increase in the number of localities where Women in Solidarity activities and projects were undertaken.

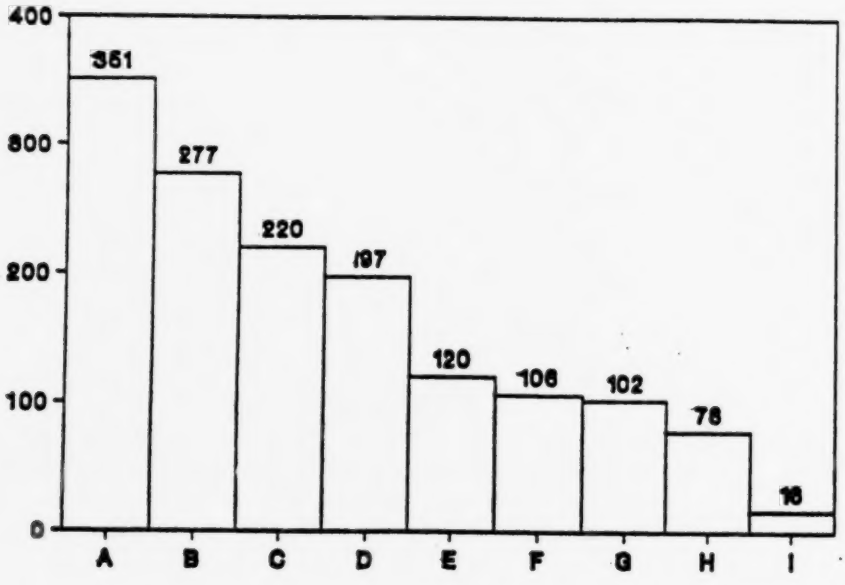
40. In 1991, the Programme continued to operate in the same 31 states, but in only 275 municipalities and 816 localities, to the direct benefit of 116,611 families and 45,327 individual women (see annex 5).

1992 Programme

41. Activities for 1992, according to the schedule for the first half-year, are as indicated in tables PMS-3 and PMS-4, which show respectively the number of social and service projects and production projects implemented up to July 1992, over which period the geographical coverage of the Programme appears to have diminished, since it extended to only 28 states and just 211 municipalities and 619 localities.

PRODUCTION PROJECTS
1989-1991

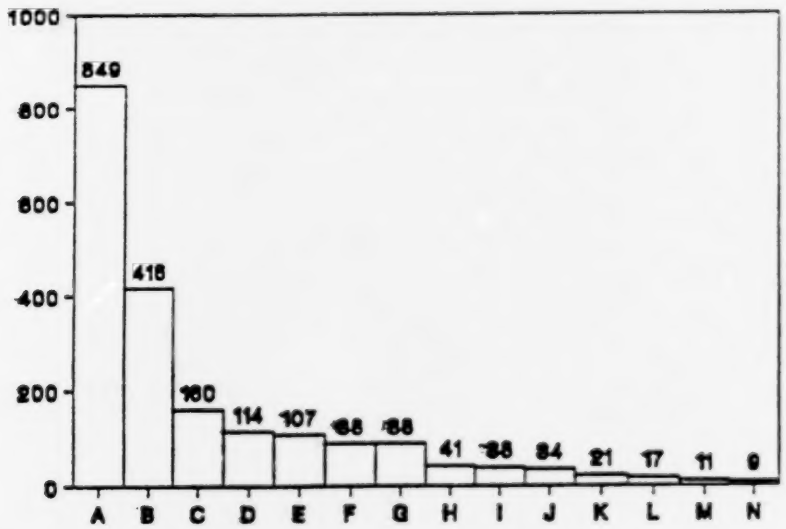
Total: 1,467



A. Workshops
B. Production centres
C. Community farms
D. Tortilla-making establishments
E. Bakeries
F. Family market gardens
G. Provision stores
H. Other
I. Public kitchens

SOCIAL AND SERVICE PROJECTS
1989-1991

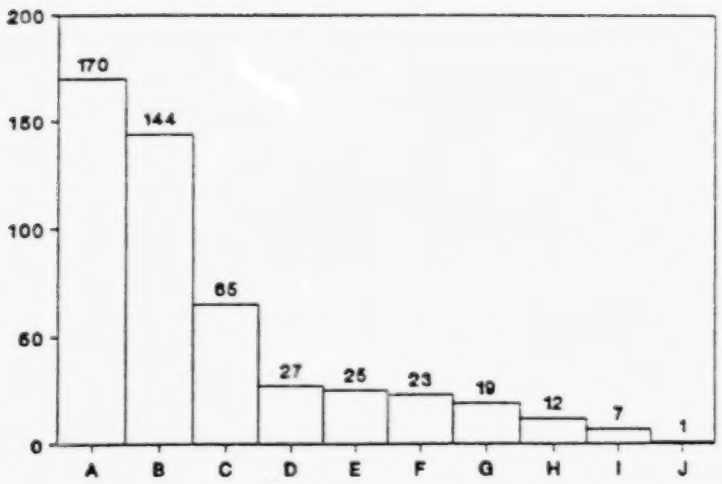
Total: 1,993



A. Mills
B. Housing
C. Recreational facilities
D. Latrines
E. Water
F. Other
G. Women's support centres
H. Health centres
I. Schools
J. Electrification
K. Drainage extension work
L. Ecological protection
M. Roads
N. Day nurseries

SOCIAL AND SERVICE PROJECTS
1992
(First half-year)

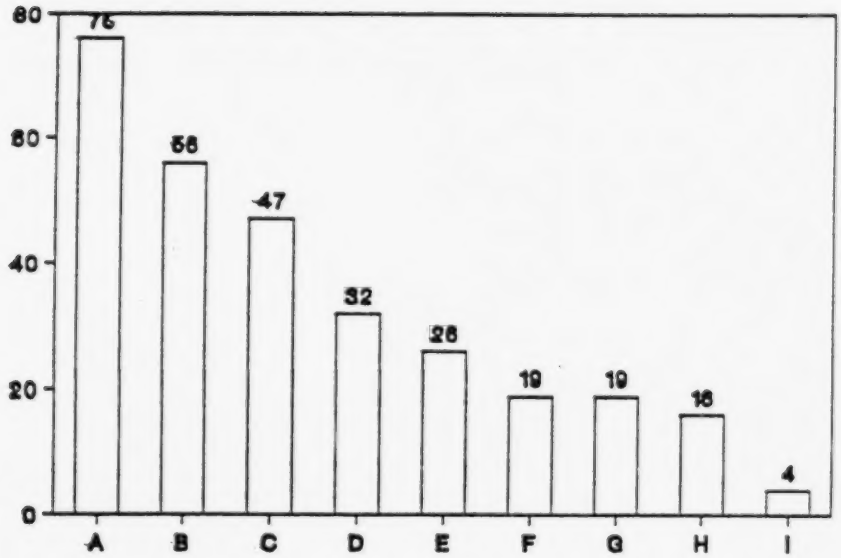
Total: 493



A. Housing
B. Nixtamal corn mills
C. Water
D. Other
E. Women's support centres
F. Latrines
G. Electrification
H. Health centres
I. Recreational facilities
J. Ecological protection

PRODUCTION PROJECTS
1992

Total: 295



A. Tortilla making establishments
B. Provision stores
C. Community farms
D. Workshops
E. Production centres
F. Family market gardens
G. Bakeries
H. Other
I. Public kitchens

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE
1989–1991

1989	1990	1991
28 states	31 states	31 states
439 municipalities	373 municipalities	275 municipalities
926 localities	1,010 localities	816 localities

PART II. THE CONVENTION AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION

ARTICLE 6. VIOLENCE

42. The global social and economic process, which in the developing countries faces a crisis of acute proportions, coupled with the soaring advances in the science and technology of communications, has led, inter alia, to a severe decline in social and cultural standards in the vast majority of countries, which in turn has given rise to a serious increase in violence against women.

43. The new generations are attempting to adjust to the speed of social and political change in the development process itself, while at the same time seeking to bring about the necessary changes in traditional thinking and to adapt social stereotyping to the new cultural and economic requirements imposed by modern life.

44. All these endeavours have fostered a new social awareness among women of all nations. and we are thus witnessing the formation of groups, associations and alliances of women who are attempting to combine their efforts in order to overcome their fundamental problems, which range from essential respect for their human rights to the task of combating the violence that is committed against them.

45. In the case of Mexico, the change in attitudes is taking place not only among the general public, where it has occurred with the greatest speed, but also in government circles, where efforts have been directed both at introducing various guarantees and controls for the offender and also at providing services for the victim.

46. In the large towns, such as Mexico City, the problem of crime has become accentuated during the last decade, forcing the Government to accord priority attention to dealing with offences involving violence.

47. Table No. 1 (annex 1) illustrates the incidence of crime in relation to population figures for the Federal District over the last decade.

48. Table No. 2 (annex 2) shows the relationship between sexual offences committed in 1990 and total crime figures for the same year, according to data provided by the Information Centre of the Federal District Department of Public Prosecution.

49. Although not clearly apparent from table No. 2 (annex 2), 73.02 per cent of all crimes committed in 1990 were non-violent and 26.98 per cent were violent; into the latter category fall sexual offences, including rape, which accounts for 4 per cent of all crimes of violence. Table No. 3 (annex 3) shows the sex crime rates for 1989 and 1990 in Mexico City.

50. An institutional analysis made of crime figures has revealed that of all sexual offences committed the percentage reported is extremely low, and that most victims fail to file a complaint with the Department of Public Prosecution.

51. Also, as is the case in very many countries, there are no statistics in Mexico on physical assaults on women, which represent a major area of the overall problem of violence against women. Nevertheless, the problem has not been ignored.

52. As was stated at the time of presentation of the first periodic report of Mexico, in 1989 an extensive review of current legislation governing sexual offences was undertaken and a public inquiry was conducted, the findings of which were forwarded to and studied by the Commission of Inquiry of the Chamber of Deputies as part of a series of measures introduced by the Government of Mexico through the Office of the Public Prosecutor of the Federal District, who is now the Attorney-General of the Republic, with a view to reducing the rate of sexual offences committed against women.

53. The public inquiry encompassed civic groups (women's organizations and groups as well as other community associations) that had carried out extensive work in the area of support for victims of sexual offences and, more generally, on the issue of violence against women. The most notable of these groups in Mexico, by reason of their programmes and membership, include:

- Margarita Magón Women's Support Centre, A.C.;
- Psychological Welfare Centre, Mexican Youth Enterprise Support Foundation (FEAJM);
- Women, their Bodies and Human Rights. Mexican Academy of Human Rights;
- Violence-against-Women Programme. Feminist Collective of Xalapa, A.C;
- Women's Emergency Service. Support Centre for Women Victims of Rape, A.C;
- Sexuality, violence and sexual harassment against women. Centre for Women's Studies (Faculty of Psychology, Autonomous University of Mexico);
- Feminist supplement entitled "Doble Jornada" ["Double Working Day"], La Jornada newspaper;
- National Network to Combat Violence against Women, A.C., Federal District;
- Centre for Women's Research and Training (CICAM), A.C;
- Collective to Combat Violence against Women (COVAC);
- Communication, Interchange and Human Development in Latin America (CIDHAL);
- National Union of Mexican Women;
- Comprehensive Programme of Action against Violence (PIAV);
- Women's Support Centre (CAM), Colima;
- Solidarity Movement against Sexual Violence (MOSOCOVI), state of Guerrero;
- Violence Counselling and Support Centre, Nogales, Sonora;
- Feminist Coordination Unit of the Federal District.

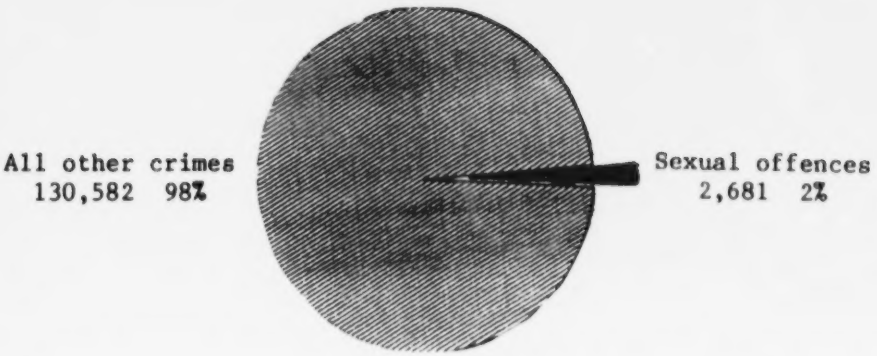
INCIDENCE OF CRIME AND POPULATION FIGURES FOR THE FEDERAL DISTRICT

	Year									
	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Crimes	109,114	110,585	105,758	152,430	150,657	149,920	165,295	174,075	174,128	149,209
Population a/	9,196	9,355	9,510	9,659	9,800	9,931	10,051	10,051	10,263	10,355
Crimes per 10 000 inhabitants	119	118	111	158	154	151	164	171	170	144

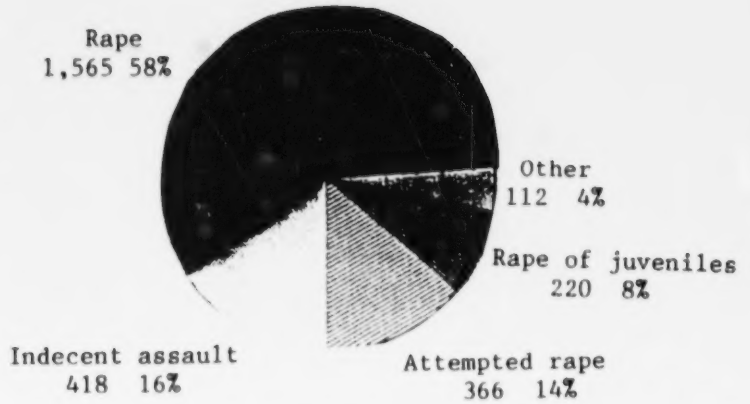
a/ Figures supplied by the National Population Council (CONAPO): Programmatic Projections.

INCIDENCE OF CRIME AND SEXUAL OFFENCES IN THE FEDERAL DISTRICT
(JANUARY - DECEMBER 1990)

TOTAL INCIDENCE OF CRIME

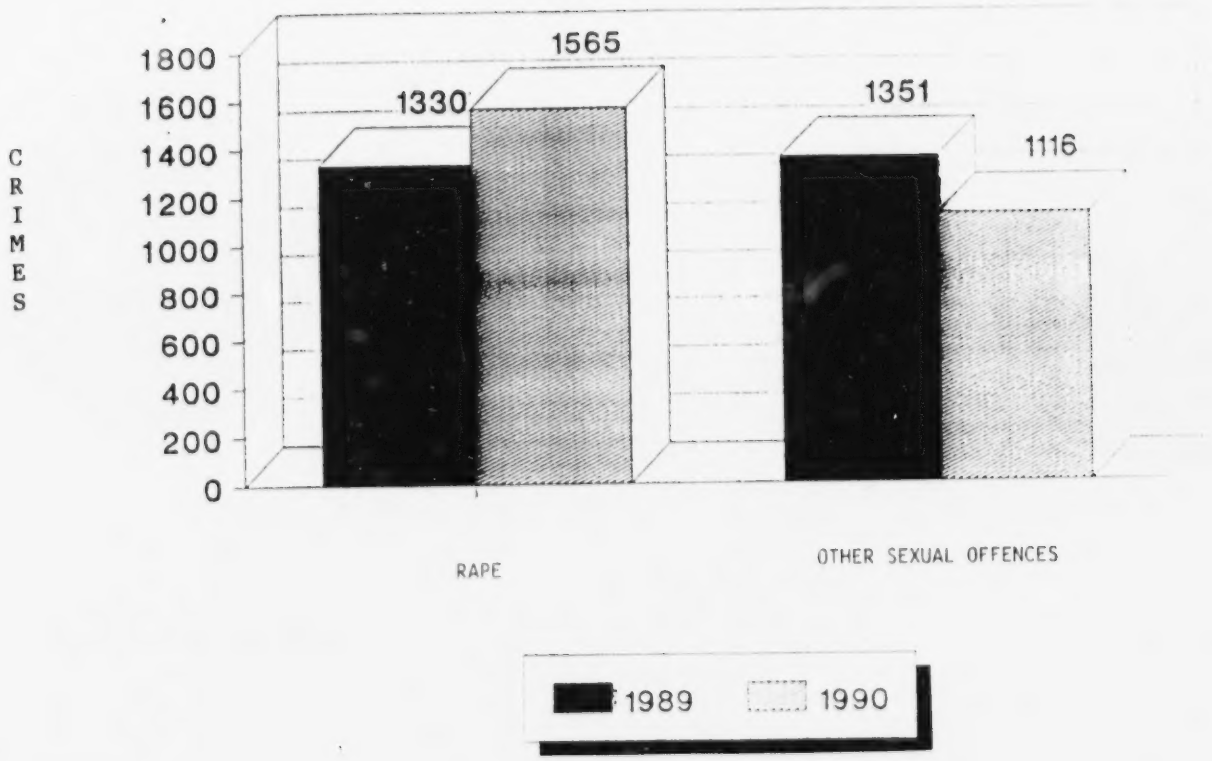


SEXUAL OFFENCES



Source: Information Centre of the Federal District Department of Public Prosecution.

SEX CRIME FIGURES
1989-1990



Source: Information Centre of the Federal District Department of Public Prosecution.

54. It should be pointed out that the experience gained from the work undertaken jointly with civic groups and associations brought to light the fact that one of the main obstacles that had been encountered by these groups in their endeavours was precisely a lack of linkage between their programmes and the Government's action on the same issues. Such coordination between the public and the institutions of government began in 1989 and has led to the removal of this and other obstacles and to better results through their joint efforts.

55. In addition to the public inquiry referred to above, a scheme involving the establishment of specialized agencies to deal with sexual offences has been mounted, as part of the Criminal Prosecution and Victim Priority Action Programme, in response to society's demands for changes in the institutional practices of the various prosecution authorities, practices that were seen as humiliating for the victims of such offences.

56. The prime tasks of the specialized agencies are pursued on two interacting levels:

- Providing care and assistance for victims in the form of therapy and information counselling; and

- Making crime investigation as effective as possible.

57. The successful performance of these tasks calls for specialist staff at both levels, i.e. physicians, diagnosticians, psychologists and social workers, together with judicial and police personnel of the highest calibre.

58. The members of the interdisciplinary team at each specialized agency undergo prior screening based on "psychological profiling to ensure their emotional stability, frustration control, sensitivity in dealing with high-risk victims, integrity and well-balanced psychosexual development".

59. Four such specialized agencies to handle sexual offences were set up in 1989 in the Federal District, and the necessary regulations have been issued to enable them to operate as an integral part of the public prosecution service. Also, contacts have been established with those states of the Republic whose governments wished to introduce similar schemes.

60. To date, specialized agencies have been set up in Baja California Norte, Colima, Chiapas, Mexico State, Guerrero, Jalisco, Michoacán, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Querétaro, Quintana Roo, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tlaxcala, Veracruz and Yucatán.

61. Together with the specialized agencies in the Federal District, three support centres have been established for victims of sexual offences and their families:

- Support Therapy Centre (CTA);

- Domestic Violence Care Centre (CAVI); and

- Missing and Absent Persons Support Centre (CAPEA).

62. In February 1991, the Special Prosecution Service for Sex Crimes was set up with the aim of achieving standards of technical excellence in criminal investigation work and also to serve as a body to promote the defence of the human rights of both victims and offenders.

63. In addition to the above, meetings of leaders of women's groups involved in different sectors of social and political activity, i.e. women legislators (deputies, senators and assembly members), journalists, academics and intellectuals from a variety of social backgrounds and representing diverse ideologies, took place in 1990 at the invitation of the Federal District Department of Public Prosecution, in an "attempt to tackle the problem" of the incidence of sexual offences and the consequences for the victims. In other words, the issue shifted from the level of "individual and organizational awareness" to that of "social mobilization".

64. The diverse and pluralistic body of women referred to above established itself as a formal group under the name of "Pluralistic Victim Support Committee, A.C." (known as Grupo Plural) after initiating such important steps as the drafting and submission of a series of proposed reforms to the provisions governing sexual offences contained in the Federal District Penal Code, which had already undergone amendment in 1984 with modifications to the related legislation but without addressing the problem of the consequences of such crimes, i.e. the effects on the victims.

65. The prime objective of Grupo Plural since its very beginnings has been to promote the continuity and permanence of action undertaken to combat violence and sex crimes and to ensure that victim support services established in the future maintain the highest standards and do not deteriorate in quality.

66. The reforms of the Federal District Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure that were initiated by Grupo Plural and which entered into force in January 1991 have made it possible to redefine sex crimes, to make conduct constituting such crimes a criminal offence, and to update the penalties applicable to them.

67. It has been demonstrated that the determination of civic organizations and of women generally can overcome potential politico-ideological and party differences and bring about judicial reforms of importance in terms of content and of significance as mechanisms for changing society's attitudes towards gender.

ARTICLE 7. WOMEN IN THE POLITICAL AND PUBLIC LIFE OF THE COUNTRY

68. As was indicated in the initial report of Mexico (CEDAW/C/5/Add.2) and reiterated in the first periodic report (CEDAW/C/13/Add.10), the right of women to participate in "the political and public life of the country" on a basis of equality with men is guaranteed in chapter I of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States, which embodies the individual freedoms of all inhabitants of Mexico without distinction.

69. The equal status of men and women is recognized under article 4, the provisions of which also protect the organization and development of the family, the right to health and to decent housing, as well as the rights of children.

70. Women's political capacity and their right to participate in politics are expressly recognized in articles 34 to 36 of the Political Constitution, which provide as follows:

"**Article 34:** Men and women who, in addition to being Mexican nationals, fulfil the following requirements:

I. Are over 18 years of age; and

II. Have an honest means of livelihood, shall be citizens of the Republic."

"**Article 35:** Citizens shall be entitled:

I. To vote at popular elections;

II. To stand for election to all popularly-elected posts and be appointed to any other office or commission, provided that they possess the qualifications laid down by law;

III. To associate freely and peacefully for the purpose of participating in the political affairs of the country;

IV. To bear arms in the Army or National Guard in the defence of the Republic and its institutions, in accordance with the terms of the law; and

V. To exercise the right of petition in business dealings of any kind."

"**Article 36:** Citizens of the Republic shall be obliged:

I. To record their names in the municipal tax lists, declaring any property owned by them and any trade, profession or employment from which they derive their livelihood; and to register in the electoral poll-books, in accordance with the terms of the law.

The organization and permanent operation of the electoral poll-books and the issuance of documents constituting proof of Mexican citizenship are services in the public interest, responsibility for which accordingly devolves upon the State and upon the citizens, in accordance with the terms of the law.

II. To enlist in the National Guard;

III. To vote in popular elections in their own electoral district;

IV. To discharge the duties of popularly-elected federal or state posts, which shall in no case be gratuitous; and

V. To serve on the local councils of their municipalities of residence, and to perform electoral duties and jury service."

71. The demands for greater participation by women in political activities have been intensified not only through the legal principles described above but also as a consequence of the nation's development, the accelerated process of urbanization, the modernization of the economy and the radical changes in the cultural and educational life of Mexico.

72. However, even though women constitute the majority of the Mexican population, according to the national census conducted in 1990, and their right to vote and be elected has been recognized for 40 years, they do not enjoy full equality in terms of their participation in politics or in the country's political affairs.

73. Also, although Mexican women made up 54.1 per cent of the 1991 national electoral roll, that does not ensure them equal representation in the country's organs of government, as is illustrated below.

The Legislature:

(a) Women account for a mere 7.6 per cent of the members of the Chamber of Deputies, which is composed of 500 representatives of the people;

(b) As regards the Senate of the Republic, only 4.7 per cent of the 64 regular senators or permanent members are women;

(c) With regard to the Assembly of Representatives of the Federal District, a body that was set up in 1988 to represent the citizenry and of which details were provided in the first periodic report, 21.2 per cent of its total of 66 members are women.

74. As can be seen from the results of the elections held in 1991, women's participation in the organs of the Federal Legislature has diminished significantly, female representation in the Senate of the Republic having fallen from 10 to just 3 senators, i.e. a drop of 66 per cent.

75. The proportion of women in the Chamber of Deputies has decreased by almost 50 per cent; indeed, there were 62 elected female deputies in 1988 and, according to the results of the 1991 elections, there are currently only 38.

76. By contrast, the number of women members of the Assembly of Representatives of the Federal District has increased slightly, from 12 (in 1988) to 14.

The Executive:

77. As regards the Federal Government, only one of the two women secretaries of state appointed in December 1988 is still serving, namely the head of the Office of the Comptroller-General.

78. Among the other top-level posts in government departments, the number of women under-secretaries has risen by two, and there has been an increase in the number of women at director-general level, which ranks fourth or fifth in importance in the government departments. In general terms, a greater numerical participation of young women can be observed in the structure of the Federal Government.

The Judiciary:

79. Women continue to participate actively in the judicial branch of the Federation, whose functions are administered by the supreme court of justice, the appellate circuit courts, the single-magistrate courts, and the higher and lower circuit courts.

80. Out of the total of 573 posts constituting the various bodies of the Judiciary nationwide, 113 are held by women and 460 by men, i.e. an overall female representation of 19.7 per cent. The above posts and percentage break down as follows:

81. Of the 573 postholders, 270 (47.2 per cent) are in the Federal District and 300 (52.8 per cent) are in the provinces of the Republic.

82. Of the 270 individuals occupying posts in the Federal District, 200 are male and the remaining 70 female, which, in relative terms is equivalent to 25.9 per cent.

83. As regards non-resident personnel, constituted essentially by district magistrates and circuit court judges, 260 of the 303 postholders are men and 43 (14.1 per cent) are women.

84. An analysis of each of the organs of the Federal Judiciary reveals the following:

Supreme court of justice of the nation:

This is composed of 26 judges, of whom 21 are men and five are women, i.e. 19.2 per cent.

Of these five female supreme court judges, three are regular justices and two are alternate members of the bench.

Circuit court judges:

Over the country as a whole, there are currently 257 posts of circuit court judge, of which 28 (10.9 per cent) are held by women and 229 by men.

85. Of the 28 female judges, 14 are in the Federal District and 14 in the interior of the Republic.

86. The first circuit (Federal District) comprises 78 judges in all, the 14 women judges referred to above thus representing 17.95 per cent. The total number of judges serving on the other circuits is 179; the 14 female judges in the interior of the Republic thus account for 7.84 per cent.

District magistrates:

87. Within the national territory there are at present 153 serving district magistrates, of whom 114 are men and 39 are women, i.e. 25.5 per cent.

88. Of these 153 district magistrates, 39 are in the Federal District and 124 in the provinces. Of the magistrates attached to the district courts within the Federal District, 10 (33.99 per cent) are female and 19 are male.

89. As regards the 124 district magistrates in the interior of the country, 95 are men and 29 (30.5 per cent) are women.

Federal states:

90. Mention should be made of the representation of women in the Federal District judiciary, in view of its importance as the largest of the judicial authorities in the federal states of the Republic. It comprises:

A high court of justice, whose judges number 48 in all, including 12 women, i.e., 25 per cent;

Courts of first instance, which have a total of 191 judges, of whom 67 (35 per cent) are women;

Magistrate's courts, which employ 36 justices of the peace, of whom 8 (22 per cent) are women.

State governments:

91. Women's participation in the executive branch of the governments of the states of the Federation does not appear to have increased numerically or proportionately or to have improved at the level of decision-making posts. Indeed, in January 1990 it was announced that a woman governor had been elected, namely that of the state of Tlaxcala. By July 1992, there was still one female governor, but serving in the state of Yucatán and appointed on an interim basis by the Congress of that state, the Tlaxcala state governor having applied to her state's Congress for leave of absence during the remaining months of her term of office in order to assume the headship of the general secretariat of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

92. In the state of Chihuahua, a woman is secretary-general of the government, this being the second most important political post within each state government. Her term of office expires in October 1992.

93. No specific details are available regarding women's participation in the state legislatures.

Political activities and involvement:

94. As in the vast majority of countries, the main channels of access to participation in politics in Mexico are the political parties, where an increasing presence of women can be observed, both in actual membership figures and at the various levels of party leadership.

95. Nevertheless, women's involvement in party politics cannot be regarded as having risen, in qualitative terms, in proportion to the numerical size of the female electorate, if one considers that the 1991 national electoral roll comprised 21,218,460 women and 18,236,333 men.

96. Within the **Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI)**, which is the majority party in the Mexican Republic, several women have recently been assigned to executive-level posts. As stated above, one woman has been appointed secretary-general of the National Executive Committee, the second most important post, and another woman has been appointed international affairs secretary on the same Committee, a post that ranks third nation-wide. Five female under-secretaries and one female assistant legal director have also been appointed. In addition, there are nine women among the 100 members of the National Political Council.

97. Women head the two most important of the PRI's sectoral groups: one is secretary-general of the National Union of Education Workers, and the other, who is additionally a senator of the Republic, is the leader of the People's Territorial Movement, which combines all the trade associations and federations that are members of the PRI.

98. On the State Executive Committees of the PRI there are 16 women who hold executive-level posts, one half of them in the area of social administration, a sphere traditionally regarded as ideal for women. These posts are in addition to those held by the women coordinators and workers on the PRI's own National Council for the Integration of Women.

99. Women's participation in an executive capacity within the other political parties is as follows:

In the **National Action Party (PAN)**, the post of secretary-general is held by a woman;

In the **Mexican Revolutionary Cardenista Front Party (PFCRM)**, the chief officer of the National Executive Committee is a woman.

In the **People's Socialist Party (PPS)**, according to available data, no women hold executive-level posts.

The statutes of the **Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD)** stipulate that 20 per cent of the executive posts on the National Executive Committee must be held by women. Thus, of its 30 members, six are women.

100. Also, there are at present in the country many diverse organizations that are concerned about the status and position of Mexican women and are formulating, devising and implementing schemes aimed at helping to improve the situation of the country's female population; the experiences of these organizations unquestionably represent an invaluable contribution to the acquisition of greater knowledge about women in Mexico and to the development of possible solutions to the problems of disadvantaged women.

101. The number and types of organizations that are active, the specific aims pursued by them, the kinds of activities they carry out, the issues with which they are involved and the approaches adopted to deal with them, the population segments that they assist, the territories where they operate and the way in which gender specifics are incorporated into the programmes that they undertake are aspects about which little is as yet known, since they are for the most part new, non-governmental civic organizations or groups made up predominantly of young people.

102. The National Population Council (CONAPO), a governmental institution responsible for coordinating and promoting women's support programmes, having become aware of the dearth of information in this respect, has, for the purpose of helping to identify institutions that are expressly or implicitly carrying out activities with or for women in the country, embarked upon the task of compiling a tentative directory of such organizations, with the aims of:

(a) Updating existing information;

(b) Helping to forge closer links between organizations working for the benefit of women in the country and to develop greater mutual support and cooperation;

(c) Publicizing the working experiences of all the organizations;

(d) Preventing duplication of action, in order to achieve a more rational use of the available human and financial resources;

(e) Identifying possible channels of interchange and cooperation between CONAPO and private national organizations working with and for women.

103. In all, 579 governmental and non-governmental organizations whose objectives and programmes are directed at Mexico's female population have been identified. Owing to the quantity of information gathered and the fact that the existence and continuity of the programmes undertaken by these organizations are subject to constantly unstable situations, information covering a total of only 104 organizations has been processed to date, and from this a preliminary version of the "Directory of civic organizations working with and for women in Mexico" has been prepared.

104. The various organizations have been categorized into the following eight fields on the basis of the main line of action pursued by each of them:

Field	Number of organizations
I. Working with rural women	12
II. Human rights	14
III. Education	5
IV. Research	18
V. Participation in politics	5
VI. Community development	30
VII. Health	16
VIII. Employment	4

ARTICLE 8. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

105. As regards women's roles in the international sphere, it can be said that, in general terms, their involvement in the application of foreign policy is continuing with the same momentum as in 1989 and that the involvement of professional (mostly young) women has increased, according to the figures available.

106. Indeed, 75 women have been successful in the four competitive public examinations for entry into the Mexican foreign service that have been held between January 1988 and July 1992.

107. Women's representation at the various grades of foreign service posts has fluctuated considerably, although, in simple percentage terms, it may be regarded as having diminished if one considers the following total figures for 1987 and 1992:

1987		**Total posts: 1,215**
Women	503	75 in the diplomatic branch, 27 in the consular branch and 401 in the administrative branch.
Men	712	347 in the diplomatic branch, 119 in the consular branch and 246 in the administrative branch.
Difference	209	Total

1992		**Total posts: 1,208**
Women	468	94 in the diplomatic branch, 43 in the consular branch and 331 in the administrative branch.
Men	740	457 in the diplomatic branch, 95 in the consular branch and 188 in the administrative branch.
Difference	272	Total

Net variations in female posts between 1987 and 1992:

Diplomatic branch	+ 19
Consular branch	+ 16
Administrative branch	- 62

108. It is important to note in connection with the above figures that in 1987 seven women held the rank of ambassador, although none held that of consul-general.

109. As at July 1992, there were five female ambassadors only and two female consuls-general; in other words, the total number of women occupying the highest posts in the foreign service has been maintained, albeit with variations in the two substantive branches, i.e., diplomatic and consular.

110. Also, the participation of women in the three branches of the Mexican foreign service has undergone slight variations in percentage terms, as follows:

In the diplomatic branch, women occupy 17.05 per cent of the total posts held by men and women; there has thus been virtually no change in their percentage representation, which was 17.08 per cent in 1987.

In the consular branch, however, it has risen considerably in relation to the 1987 ratio, since it is now 31.2 per cent of all posts, compared with 18.5 per cent previously.

In the administrative branch, despite the reduction in the number of women, their percentage participation has not changed significantly. In 1992 it was 63.8 per cent of the total of 519 posts, having been 62 per cent in 1987.

111. In the administrative structure of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the representation of women in posts at the middle and senior levels of management, i.e., from assistant director to secretary of state, is as follows:

Total posts	Women	Percentage	Men	Percentage
307	77	25.1	230	74.9

ARTICLE 10. EDUCATION

112. In Mexico, which is a country born out of independence after several centuries of colonial domination, education has from the very beginning been the key to national integration and the basis for improving the country's standards of living.

113. Consequently, in Mexico there are no statutory or administrative impediments to the admission of the female population to the education system. Males and females both have access to the same curricula and to the same examinations; the teaching staff is the same for both sexes, and there is no difference in the quality of education for boys and for girls.

114. Against that background and with the basic aim of improving children's education and of providing a better preparation for the primary-school pupils who at the end of the twentieth century will have to enter the labour market and face national and international conditions far more complex than those that we have experienced, the level of public spending on education has been increased by a further 70 per cent in real terms since 1989.

115. Under the National Solidarity Programme (PRONASOL), more than 50,000 schools in rural and deprived urban areas have been repaired, 500,000 boys and girls now receive Solidarity grants, which are cash and food

allowances provided to pupils in order to guarantee their continuation in primary education. There has been much progress, but it has not been sufficient.

116. Without questioning the great achievements that public education has brought to the country, the President of the Republic has acknowledged that the national education system "requires new impetus and fundamental changes to enable it to continue fulfilling its crucial role in the nation's integration, in sustaining economic development and in the attainment of greater justice".

117. With that intention, the Government of Mexico on 19 May 1992 launched the Education Modernization Programme, which is the product of a committed and responsible contribution on the part of society and has been based on the guiding principles of Mexican education as embodied in the Constitution of the Republic.

118. This Programme, which is the outcome of coordinated efforts by the Federal Government, the State Governments and the National Union of Education Workers, culminating in the National Agreement for the Modernization of Basic Education, seeks to provide adequate schooling for all children and young people, focusing in priority on basic education, and to promote pre-primary education, in an attempt to reduce illiteracy to a minimum.

119. The above policy represents a radical educational reform, which will be undertaken in a comprehensive manner. It is not an administrative measure; it is a complete reform, which can be summed up in five basic points:

1. The national system of education will be maintained, with the full force of article 3 of the Constitution and a reaffirmation of the secular and cost-free aspects of State education and of the compulsory nature of basic education, which comprises the primary and secondary levels. In this way, public education will be strengthened;

2. Greater resources in real terms will be earmarked for the educational sector, in services, materials, facilities and school establishments;

3. Ways will be sought to achieve standards of teaching excellence by enhancing the status of the profession through training programmes and by promoting its social benefits;

4. Teaching content will be reformulated, with a return to basic topics of knowledge;

5. A new educational federalism will be introduced in order to remove obstacles to a greater commitment on the part of the federal states, society and the community; and the efforts of the municipal authorites, the individual states and the Federal Government will be coordinated.

120. The above approach will be more readily understood if one considers that total enrolment in the national education system in the 1990-91 academic year was 25,210,266 pupils, of whom 64.7 per cent were under the administration of the Federation, 25.5 per cent under that of the state governments and 9.8 per cent under that of private school establishments.

121. Improvements in the quality of education will provide the means to modernize education and to address the problem of a lack of coordination among the pre-primary, primary and secondary models. Under the educational reform, a new model that proposes new links with society is being formulated. Within this model, priority attention will be accorded to apprenticeships with a view to the enhancement of national identity and sovereignty, democratic life and trade liberalization in a world of globalization.

122. The model is currently at the experimental stage. Once that stage is completed, the model will be implemented for the 1992-93 academic period, commencing in September 1992.

123. The Education Modernization Programme lays down six guidelines in this respect:

1. Restatement of the educational principle contained in the Constitution so that it responds to the new circumstances;

2. Elimination of differences between religions and racial groups;

3. Emphasis on efficacy and efficiency and on the quality of education;

4. Diversification of educational services;

5. Integration of the educational process into economic development, with a commitment to productivity;

6. Restructuring of the organization of education so that it serves the needs of the country.

124. The expansion of educational coverage will be undertaken in two ways: by extending and improving the schools service, and by increasing the provision of non-formal education.

125. The general aims of the education policy pursued by the Government of Mexico are to achieve nationwide literacy and to implement an updated educational programme that addresses the problems that the country needs to overcome in order to train its future leaders.

126. At the present time, according to data from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 87.4 per cent of the country's total population aged over 15 years is literate and 12.4 per cent is illiterate. In this connection it should be mentioned that, primarily because of cultural patterns and despite literacy training efforts, women in Mexico - as in many other countries of the world - constitute the majority of the illiterate population, of which total they account for 62.6 per cent. It should nevertheless be pointed out that this group of women makes up just 15 per cent of the country's total female population aged over 15 years (see annexes 1 and 2).

127. This female illiterate group comprises mainly adults. According to data from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 72.84 per cent of the total illiterate female population is more than 30 years old (see annex 3).

128. The above census data also show that 33.42 per cent of the total population aged over 5 years currently attends school, the pupil breakdown being 51.01 per cent males and 48.99 per cent females.

129. Information supplied by the Department of Public Education indicates that the distribution of the student population over the eight levels of schooling is as shown in the table below:

Female population in the national education system by level of instruction (academic year 1989-1990)

Level	Total students	Females	Percentage
Pre-primary	2,662,588	1,306,959	49
Primary	14,493,763	7,009,421	48
Employment training	436,168	288,264	66
Secondary	4,267,156	2,074,324	49
Intermediate vocational	413,427	248,886	60
Senior high school	1,678,439	747,883	46
Teacher training	118,501	74,572	63
Further education	1,140,224	449,556	39

Source: Ministry of Public Education.

130. It can be seen from these overall percentages that in the levels comprising basic education (formerly known as "elementary" education), i.e. pre-primary, primary and secondary, there is a balanced or equitable male/female enrolment, the male percentage being just slightly higher. However, as the level of educational attainment rises, the difference between the sexes becomes more pronounced.

131. Indeed, enrolment at the employment training level appears to show a predominance of girls (66 per cent), displaying a preference for "short technical courses", i.e. business, secretarial, computer, etc. studies. There is a higher proportion of male students at the senior high-school level, while the participation of female pupils is greater at the intermediate vocational level (60 per cent).

132. By contrast, in further education and at the post-graduate level, males outnumber females in most university courses with the exception of teacher training, where women students predominate at 63 per cent. Since the 1987-88 academic year, teacher training diplomas have been on a par with bachelor's degrees.

133. Although major efforts have been made since 1975 to promote female enrolment in further education (bachelor's and master's degree and post-graduate courses) and female students have subsequently been encouraged to pursue courses of study other than those hitherto regarded as "suitable" for women (such as teaching), women students still have a preference for courses in the humanities or health sciences, as can be seen from the table in annex 4, which shows a marked difference in female student enrolment in the fields of agricultural sciences, engineering and technology.

134. A further problem that has already been reported on, namely school drop-out, still persists not only at the basic education levels (primary and secondary school), among both boys and girls, but also in the final years of further education and university studies, to a greater extent among women, mainly as a result of socio-cultural factors and, in recent years, financial problems. It can thus be said that the drop-out rate among female students at all levels of education exceeds that of male students, according to existing data on institutions of basic and further education.

135. Annex 5 provides a comparison of educational attainment levels between males and females, based on sex ratios of the population aged 15 years and over by five-year age groups.

136. An encouraging trend has, however, been observed in the increasing number of women who, after taking up employment in service occupations, such as commerce, tourism, public administration, etc. at levels not requiring further education or university training, are taking up their studies again with greater perseverance than men, although no precise data are available regarding family situations, financial circumstances or specific motivations.

137. To counteract the trend in school drop-out and to encourage the resumption of studies as referred to in the previous paragraph, the National Population Council is implementing major activities under the National Population Programme, with the direct involvement of the Department of Public Education. These activities aim to guarantee Mexican women improved educational status, and they include various schemes within the education sector that are designed to help promote women's participation in the global development process, such as guidance and information on family health and welfare and on family planning. These activities are being coordinated with the programmes of the institutions directly responsible for the topics concerned, but are in all cases being carried out as part of the Education Modernization Programme.

138. The project also includes women's support activities in general, such as parental guidance provided through parent instruction classes dealing with matters of health, family planning and the upbringing of children, and the design and dissemination via the mass media of programmes and printed matter; community educators are being trained in these same basic topics of health and family planning; and employment training is being given to women who need to enter the productive sector during or after their education.

139. In Mexico the entire population, both male and female, has access to specific informative material relating to family health and welfare, including information and advice on family planning, which is made available at health centres, clinics operated by private and State social security institutions, specialist hospitals, medical centres and municipal and rural out-patients' clinics, as well as through the programmes and offices of the National Scheme for Comprehensive Family Development (DIF).

140. It should be mentioned that over half the potential demand for information comes from adult women who, because of socio-cultural and economic factors, have had no opportunity of gaining access to basic educational services or of completing their primary schooling. This fact is evident from the official figures, which show that over 50 per cent of all students enrolling for primary-level courses offered by the National Institute of Adult Education (INEA) are women, many of whom belong to one of the social groups living in conditions of extreme poverty in deprived urban areas of the country.

141. In this connection, the National Scheme for Comprehensive Family Development, with the support of INEA, has set up an educational project for women as the mainstay of the family. This project promotes and organizes group literacy training, open-ended primary and secondary instruction, remote secondary teaching and employment training, using two methods: workshops and courses.

142. Under the workshop method, ten-month sessions (corresponding to the country's academic year) are arranged, providing instruction in 17 areas of employment or productive labour, including industrialized garment cutting-out and making-up and jobs such as clerical assistant, cashier, secretarial assistant and medical auxiliary.

143. With regard to the courses, these last for three months and cover technological activities such as computing, plumbing, electrical maintenance, etc.

144. In conclusion, it should be pointed out that, as has been demonstrated by various studies, the educational sector exerts considerable influence both in the sphere of the family and in the sphere of work.

145. The educational status of couples, particularly of the woman, is changing their reproductive habits and is greatly influencing their views on partnerships and sexuality. The higher the level of schooling, the greater would appear to be the awareness and consideration of women's rights in matters of sexuality and in decision-making concerning motherhood.

146. According to data from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census (1990), the breakdown of the total of 2,620,262 live-born infants classified according to literacy status and level of schooling of the mother, as shown in the table included as appendix 7, is as follows:

- 374,505 (14.29 per cent) are illiterate;
- 557,269 (21.26 per cent) did not complete their primary education;
- 718,322 (27.41 per cent) completed their primary education;

- 513,524 (19.59 per cent) completed their secondary or equivalent studies;

- 161,967 (6.18 per cent) have undergone training or equivalent;

- 147,692 (5.63 per cent) received further education; and

- 126,938 (4.84 per cent) were unspecified.

Annex 1

Percentage breakdown of the literate and illiterate population aged 15 years and over, by sex

Literacy status	Total	Male	Female
Literate	100.0%	49.8%	50.2%
Illiterate	100.0%	37.4%	62.6%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 2

Breakdown of the Mexican population aged 15 years and over by sex and literacy status

Literacy status	Population aged 15 years and over	Male	Female
Literate	87.4%	90.2%	84.8%
Illiterate	12.4%	9.6%	15.0%
Not specified	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 3

Percentage breakdown of the population aged 15 years and over by five-year age groups, literacy status and sex

	Literate population			Illiterate population		
Age group	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
15 to 19	21.38	21.20	21.55	6.18	7.72	5.27
20 to 24	17.06	16.53	17.58	6.80	7.14	6.60
25 to 29	13.68	13.33	14.02	7.54	7.35	7.65
30 to 34	11.35	11.18	11.52	7.41	7.05	7.63
35 to 39	9.27	9.34	9.20	8.95	8.30	9.34
40 to 44	6.82	7.01	6.63	8.69	8.21	8.97
45 to 49	5.48	5.74	5.23	9.56	9.20	9.77
50 to 54	4.28	4.46	4.09	8.67	8.52	8.76
55 to 59	3.25	3.43	3.07	7.83	7.68	7.91
60 to 64	2.58	2.72	2.44	7.92	7.86	7.95
65 and over	4.86	5.06	4.66	20.45	20.96	20.14
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 4

University student enrolment by field of study and sex, 1989

Field of study	Total		Male		Female	
	Absolute	%	Absolute	%	Absolute	%
Agricultural sciences	66,025	100	55,751	84.4	10,274	15.6
Natural and exact sciences	117,185	100	53,129	45.3	64,056	54.7
Health sciences	27,498	100	16,486	60.0	11,012	40.0
Social sciences and administration	496,232	100	250,758	50.5	245,474	49.5
Education and humanities	34,597	100	14,010	40.5	20,587	59.5
Engineering and technology	328,028	100	261,297	79.7	66,731	20.3
Total	1,069,565	100	651,431	60.9	418,134	39.1

Source: National Association of Universities and Institutes of Further Education. 1989 Statistical Yearbook, Bachelor's Degree Courses.

Annex 5

Sex ratios* of the population aged 15 years and over by five-year age groups and level of instruction

Age	Population aged 15 years plus	No primary	Primary uncompleted	Primary completed	Post-primary instruction
15-19	97	87	97	90	100
20-24	97	70	83	85	98
25-29	91	66	78	84	104
30-34	92	65	79	87	111
35-39	93	63	85	93	118
40-44	95	66	92	98	122
45-49	96	68	99	104	123
50-54	94	71	101	102	117
55-59	94	71	105	106	115
60-64	92	72	108	99	110
65 and over	88	75	108	86	104
Total	93	70	92	91	105

* Sex ratio: Number of males to every 100 females.

ARTICLE 11. EMPLOYMENT

147. Article 123 of the Political Constitution of Mexico accords high priority to dignified and socially useful work, which it deems the right of all members of Mexican society. Also, the Federal Labour Act, which implements that article of the Constitution, expressly stipulates that work is a right and that "no distinctions may be established between workers on the grounds of race, sex, age, religious belief, political doctrine or social status".

148. As indicated in the sections on education and health, Mexican legislation dealing with employment also protects women's rights, in this case their right to work and to enjoy all the benefits granted under the provisions of labour law to men and women workers without any distinction being made between sectors or branches of economic activity that correspond to or may be regarded as part of the formal economy; hence, the legislation currently in force applies equally to the so-called unstructured sector of the economy, and its principles must accordingly govern employment relationships established within that sector.

149. However, the reality is different. As was acknowledged in the National Development Plan for 1988-1994, major differences and inequalities continue to exist for women in terms of the number and quality of opportunities available to them, particularly in the world of work.

150. The main difference or inequality with which women must contend is the domestic and child-care workload assigned to them by society as a responsibility that is specific and exclusive to their sex. As is the case in very many other countries, this situation has meant that Mexican women who are forced to enter the labour market do not possess the social facilities that would enable them to escape this "double working day" and would provide them with sufficient assistance to prevent any disruption of the family unit or their children's upbringing.

151. Furthermore, although women's entry into the labour force has been increasing, this participation in economic activity has in fact been fostered by the deteriorating conditions that have resulted from the economic depresssion of the last decade and the consequent reduction in family income levels.

152. Mexican women's monetary contribution to family income is now becoming increasingly essential to meet the basic needs of the household, owing to the drop in the purchasing power of wages due to the effects of the recession and adjustment policies.

153. The above situation has meant that paid female employment constitutes a survival mechanism when families are faced with an urgent need to increase their income, with the woman becoming the key actor in this strategy.

154. According to the data compiled in the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, the economically active population (EAP) of the Mexican Republic currently totals 24,063,283, of whom 76.5 per cent are men and 23.5 per cent are women.

155. As can be seen from annex 1, the economic participation rate of women is 19.6 per cent (percentage of the country's total female population aged over 12 years), which is slightly higher than the figure of 17.6 per cent recorded in 1970. As stated in previous paragraphs, this means that women's entry into the nation's labour force is a continuing trend.

156. It is evident from annex 2 that the participation of women in paid economic activities is at its peak between the ages of 20 and 29 years, while the highest participation rate of men (92.2 per cent) is between the ages of 35 and 39 years.

157. In this connection, an analysis of the economic participation rates of women by five-year age groups reveals rates of 29.10 and 28.42 per cent for the 20-24 and 25-29 age groups respectively. This high level of female participation during those 10 years and its subsequent decline are linked to a woman's age at the time of her first union (21.9 years) and to the commencement of her reproductive life. Women leave the formal labour market and devote themselves to social, family and community reproduction tasks, an attitude that is beginning to change, as will be discussed subsequently in this report.

158. Women thus account for 73.5 per cent of the not economically active population, while men constitute 26.5 per cent. An examination of the non-active categories shows that the major groups are persons who perform household tasks, primarily women, and students (annex 3): 58.6 per cent of all not economically active males are students, while 75.9 per cent of all not economically active females fall into the housework category.

159. According to the data recorded in the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, the economic participation rate of women increases in proportion to the size of the locality where they live. It is thus of interest to observe - as is shown in annex 4 - how the female participation rate rises to 25.89 per cent in localities with over a million inhabitants. However, it should be pointed out that, in the case of localities having less than 2,500 inhabitants, women's economic activity rates are underestimated, since many of the unpaid productive activities performed by women living in rural areas are not recorded, as will be discussed in the section on rural women.

160. The above phenomenon is confirmed by an analysis of the specific economic participation rates of women by federal state, according to which the highest rate occurs in the Federal District (30.66 per cent) while much lower rates are indicated for the predominantly rural states of Chiapas, Oaxaca and Zacatecas (11.71, 12.33 and 11.24 per cent respectively) (annex 5).

161. As regards the sectoral distribution of the national EAP, this changed significantly between 1970 and 1990, as is apparent from annex 6. Particularly noticeable are the relative increase in tertiary-sector activities (from 31.9 to 46.1 per cent between those years) and the reduction in primary-sector activities (from 39.3 per cent in 1970 to 22.6 per cent in 1990). There was also an increase in the secondary sector, from 23.0 per cent in 1970 to 27.9 per cent in 1990.

162. The sectoral distribution of the EAP by sex presents a more contrasting picture. While 38.6 per cent of the total male EAP is employed in the

tertiary sector, that same sector contains 70.3 per cent of the female EAP. With regard to the primary sector, the figures show an even greater contrast: 28.6 per cent of the total male EAP works in agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry or fishing, yet only 3.4 per cent of the female EAP falls into that category. The gender breakdown of the EAP in the secondary sector displays fewer differences, as can be observed in annex 7.

163. A gender-breakdown analysis of the EAP strikingly reveals the low level of women's participation in the primary sector of the economy (agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing), a phenomenon that, as was mentioned in previous paragraphs, is linked to census undercounting in rural women's employment, to which reference will be made subsequently in this report in the section on rural women.

164. With regard to the female EAP breakdown by sector of activity, four major areas can be identified: 21.33 per cent of economically active females work in community and social services, 19.15 per cent in manufacturing, 17.94 per cent in commerce and 13.85 per cent in personal services and maintenance activities (annex 8).

165. In most Latin American and Caribbean countries, women who enter the labour force tend to be employed in the tertiary sector of the national economy (commerce and services). This has now become the trend in the case of men: indeed, according to the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, that sector absorbs 46.1 per cent of the country's total EAP.

166. As has been indicated by various studies, this "masculinization" of the tertiary or service sector is to a large extent due to the economic depression of the 1980s, when men left the secondary sector (mining, oil and gas extraction, manufacturing, electricity generation and construction) and were forced to take up employment in traditionally female areas such as commerce, banking and teaching.

167. As a consequence of this masculinization, women are being forced to seek work in the informal sector of the economy. This sector comprises a wide and varied range of occupations, including, in particular, street trading, family production workshops or handicraft activities, and home-based work subcontracted by large national or foreign firms. It is estimated that women currently account for between 51 and 62 per cent of all informal-sector workers including domestic-service employees, and between 32 and 37 per cent excluding domestic-service employees (1).

168. The prominence of women in the tertiary sector of the economy is further evidenced by an analysis of the female EAP breakdown by main occupation. Indeed, 21.3 per cent of women are employed as clerical workers, 13.3 per cent as sales and shop workers and 11.3 per cent as domestic workers, while the corresponding percentages for men are 5.7, 8.2 and 0.1 per cent respectively (see annex 9). This phenomenon is even more striking when one examines the male/female split for each occupation: in the case just of domestic workers, 96.6 per cent of the total employees in this category are women (see annex 10).

169. A gender-based analysis of the employment situation reveals that salaried employees and wage-earners make up 77.3 per cent of the total female EAP, as against 51.2 per cent of economically active males. By contrast, 26.5 per cent of working men are self-employed yet only 13.3 per cent of working women are (see annex 11).

170. With regard to the income of the Mexican working population, according to data from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 56.0 per cent of the EAP stated that their earnings were equivalent to up to twice the minimum wage. A middle band comprising earned income levels of more than twice and up to five times the minimum wage accounted for 24.9 per cent of the working population. At the top end, 7.6 per cent stated that their earnings exceeded five times the minimum wage, while 7.2 per cent said that they had no earned income.

171. With regard to gender specifics, the income percentages in the earnings band of twice the minimum wage or less are slightly higher in the case of women. Also, the percentage of women with no earned income is lower than that of men: 2.8 and 8.6 per cent respectively (see annex 12).

172. However, it should be pointed out in this connection that, while only 9.1 per cent of the total population with no earned income is female, women also account for only 15.5 per cent of all employed persons earning more than five times the minimum wage (see annex 13).

173. To recapitulate, it can be said that the data compiled from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census confirm the major trends that have been observed in the female EAP over the last three or four decades, which may be summed up in the following points:

- Currently, women's economic participation is steadily increasing in self-employed occupations but not in the secondary sector;

- Owing to the gender-based division of labour and the effects of the economic recession, which paradoxically increased the female labour force, women's work and employment are still being undervalued;

- It may be said that, in times of depression, women increasingly seek paid employment, which they find regionally with greater facility than men;

- The economic participation of women does not necessarily lead to an improvement in their social status, but rather increases women's physical and emotional strain in so far as they are obliged to perform their tasks as mother, spouse and housewife in addition to the duties of their working day;

- In times of recession, the population works more and lives in worse conditions; low-income families devise complex survival strategies, including the pooling of the low wages of many household members.

174. Further manifestations of the effects of the recession can be perceived mainly in the employment patterns of working-class urban women, notably the tendency of poorly educated females living in extreme financial hardship to exhibit unstable and fairly erratic employment records. The specific features of such situations differ according to the position of the working woman within her family and the particular life-cycle phase through which she is passing.

175. One of the changes that the recession appears to have brought about in the general trends of women's economic participation is to be found in the married women category: whereas in the past it was traditional for such women

to give up work during the child-bearing period and to care for their under-age children, this attitude seems to be altering, not only in terms of women's continuation in employment but also in variations in types of occupation, a change of attitude which, in the latter case, may in fact be attributable to child-care responsibilities.

176. For the purpose of promoting and helping to achieve a greater and more equitable participation by women in economic activity, the Government of Mexico, through the Department of Labour and Social Welfare, is introducing a variety of measures as part of the global employment promotion strategy to assist women according to their living conditions.

177. Also, other activities have been carried out with a view to:

(a) Identifying those branches of economic activity in which women participate and can participate significantly;

(b) Identifying the most important problems that affect women's employment participation and proposing solutions to those problems;

(c) Preparing gender-disaggregated statistics to provide increased knowledge about women's employment participation and performance; and

(d) Strengthening the efforts of the National Employment Service that are directed specifically at increasing the skills and placement of a greater number of unemployed women.

Annex 1

Percentage breakdown of the Mexican population aged 12 years and over by sex according to economic activity status, 1970 and 1990

Year	Activity status	Population aged 12 years and over	Male	Female
1970	Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Active	43.5%	70.1%	17.6%
	Not active	56.5%	29.9%	82.4%
1990	Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Active	43.0%	68.0%	19.6%
	Not active	55.1%	30.2%	78.5%
	Not specified	1.9%	1.8%	1.9%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 2

Specific economic participation rates of women by five-year age groups

Age group	Participation rate
12-14	3.43
15-19	17.95
20-24	**29.10**
25-29	28.42
30-34	26.87
35-39	24.85
40-44	22.56
45-49	18.71
50-54	15.20
55-59	12.01
60-64	9.33
65 and over	5.42
Total	19.58

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 3

Breakdown of the not economically active population of the Mexican Republic by sex according to non-active category, 1990

Non-active category	Population aged 12 years and over	Male	Female
Students	30.3%	58.6%	20.1%
Housework	56.8%	4.0%	75.9%
Retired persons and pensioners	2.4%	6.9%	0.8%
Permanently unfit for work	1.4%	3.6%	0.5%
Other	9.1%	26.9%	2.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Non-active category	Population aged 12 years and over	Male	Female
Students	100.0%	51.3%	48.7%
Housework	100.0%	1.9%	98.1%
Retired persons and pensioners	100.0%	76.3%	23.7%
Permanently unfit for work	100.0%	71.2%	28.8%
Other	100.0%	78.4%	21.6%
Total	100.0%	26.5%	73.5%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 4

Specific economic participation rates of women by five-year age groups and size of locality

Age group	Size of locality								
	1 to 2,499	2,500 to 4,999	5,000 to 9,999	10,000 to 14,999	15,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 499,999	500,000 to 999,999	One million and over
12-14	3.67	3.62	3.56	4.45	4.11	3.76	3.01	3.45	2.28
15-19	11.14	14.97	15.95	17.60	18.95	22.01	21.29	25.43	19.68
20-24	**11.84**	**19.70**	**23.37**	**25.59**	**29.41**	**34.22**	38.14	**41.30**	37.58
25-29	9.96	17.34	21.87	24.14	28.02	32.01	**38.23**	40.60	**37.79**
30-34	8.51	15.47	20.05	22.27	26.14	30.17	36.25	38.51	35.76
35-39	7.32	13.27	17.41	20.02	23.99	28.47	35.00	37.50	34.31
40-44	6.51	11.77	15.45	17.82	21.42	25.53	32.40	34.60	31.29
45-49	5.33	10.02	13.14	14.93	18.21	22.07	27.43	29.98	26.48
50-54	5.44	8.98	11.06	12.58	15.12	17.35	21.70	26.73	20.93
55-59	4.90	7.57	9.30	10.81	12.56	14.03	16.53	18.27	16.06
60-64	4.78	6.97	7.96	9.03	9.96	11.11	12.22	13.24	11.27
65+	3.54	4.59	4.90	5.52	5.98	6.39	6.59	6.97	6.13
Total	7.85	12.41	15.04	16.93	19.60	23.13	26.75	29.15	25.89

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 5

Participation rates of the economically active population
by federal state and sex

State	Specific economic activity rates		
	Total	Male	Female
Aguascalientes	44.89	69.38	22.53
Baja California	49.41	71.55	27.40
Baja California Sur	47.29	71.12	22.59
Campeche	42.82	69.61	15.91
Coahuila	43.31	66.91	20.45
Colima	45.94	70.89	21.84
Chiapas	42.91	74.49	11.71
Chihuahua	46.22	69.64	23.49
Federal District	47.63	66.81	30.66
Durango	39.45	64.42	15.84
Guanajuato	40.45	66.56	16.98
Guerrero	37.59	62.21	14.80
Hidalgo	40.51	67.69	14.81
Jalisco	43.86	68.82	21.40
México	43.42	67.32	20.73
Michoacán	39.12	66.30	14.59
Morelos	43.00	67.12	20.72
Nayarit	42.61	68.36	17.44
Nuevo León	45.94	68.79	23.64
Oaxaca	39.24	68.28	12.33
Puebla	40.36	67.93	15.08
Querétaro	43.06	67.07	20.49
Quintana Roo	51.21	77.15	22.95
San Luis Potosí	40.52	66.58	15.82
Sinaloa	44.15	67.77	20.82
Sonora	44.64	67.92	21.36
Tabasco	41.06	69.13	13.34
Tamaulipas	44.10	66.91	22.27
Tlaxcala	39.70	64.64	15.13
Veracruz	41.82	70.44	14.49
Yucatán	43.60	70.12	18.19
Zacatecas	36.00	62.84	11.24
National total	43.04	68.01	19.58

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics.
General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 6

Percentage breakdown of the working population of the Mexican Republic by sector of activity, 1970 and 1990

Sector of activity	1970	1990
Primary a/	39.3%	22.6%
Secondary b/	23.0%	27.9%
Tertiary c/	31.9%	46.1%
Not specified	5.8%	3.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

a/ Primary sector: Agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing.

b/ Secondary sector: Mining, oil and gas extraction, manufacturing, electricity generation and construction.

c/ Tertiary sector: Commerce and services.

Annex 7

Percentage breakdown of the working population of the Mexican Republic by sex according to sector of activity, 1990

Sector of activity	Male	Female
Primary a/	28.6%	3.4%
Secondary b/	30.0%	20.8%
Tertiary c/	38.6%	70.3%
Not specified	2.8%	5.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

a/ Primary sector: Agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing.

b/ Secondary sector: Mining, oil and gas extraction, manufacturing, electricity generation and construction.

c/ Tertiary sector: Commerce and services.

Annex 8

Percentage breakdown of the economically active female population by branch of activity

Branch of activity	Number	Percentage
Total	5,521,271	100.00%
Agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing	189,150	3.43%
Mining	4,492	0.08%
Oil and gas extraction	23,051	0.42%
Manufacturing	1,057,059	19.15%
Electricity and water	18,951	0.34%
Construction	43,902	0.80%
Commerce	990,757	17.94%
Transport and communications	96,398	1.75%
Financial services	136,052	2.46%
Public administration and defence	250,308	4.53%
Community and social services	1,177,471	21.33%
Professional and technical services	138,962	2.52%
Catering and hotel services	325,511	5.90%
Personal services and maintenance	764,425	13.85%
Not specified	304,782	5.52%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 9

Percentage breakdown of the working population by main occupation according to sex

Occupation	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Professional personnel	2.7%	2.6%	3.0%
Specialist workers	3.3%	2.4%	6.2%
Workers in education	3.7%	1.9%	9.6%
Workers in the arts	0.9%	0.9%	0.7%
Officials and executives	2.4%	2.6%	2.0%
Agricultural workers	22.1%	27.9%	3.3%
Inspectors and supervisors	1.7%	1.8%	1.1%
Craft and manual workers	15.9%	18.7%	7.1%
Operators of stationary machinery	5.1%	4.6%	6.5%
Assistants and the like	4.5%	5.2%	2.2%
Transport operators	5.0%	6.5%	0.2%
Clerical workers	9.3%	5.7%	21.2%
Sales and shop workers	9.4%	8.2%	13.3%
Itinerant workers	2.2%	2.1%	2.4%
Public-service workers	4.9%	4.2%	6.9%
Domestic employees	2.8%	0.1%	11.3%
Security and surveillance	2.0%	2.6%	0.3%
Not specified	2.2%	1.9%	2.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 10

Percentage breakdown of the working population
by main occupation and sex

Occupation	Total	Sex	
		Male	Female
Professional personnel	100.0%	74.1%	25.9%
Specialist workers	100.0%	55.5%	44.5%
Workers in education	100.0%	39.7%	60.3%
Workers in the arts	100.0%	81.9%	18.1%
Officials and executives	100.0%	80.6%	19.4%
Agricultural workers	100.0%	96.4%	3.6%
Inspectors and supervisors	100.0%	84.4%	15.6%
Craft and manual workers	100.0%	89.5%	10.5%
Operators of stationary machinery	100.0%	69.8%	30.2%
Assistants and the like	100.0%	88.5%	11.5%
Transport operators	100.0%	99.0%	1.0%
Clerical workers	100.0%	46.4%	53.6%
Sales and shop workers	100.0%	66.5%	33.5%
Itinerant workers	100.0%	74.3%	25.7%
Public-service workers	100.0%	66.5%	33.5%
Domestic employees	100.0%	3.4%	96.6%
Security and surveillance	100.0%	96.8%	3.2%
Not specified	100.0%	69.1%	30.9%
Total	100.0%	76.4%	23.6%

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics. General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 11

Percentage breakdown and sex ratios* of the working population by employment status according to sex

Status	Total	Sex		Ratio
		Male	Female	
Salaried employee or wage-earner	57.4%	51.2%	77.3%	215
Unskilled or day labourer	10.7%	13.3%	2.4%	1,813
Self-employed worker	23.4%	26.5%	13.3%	643
Employer	2.3%	2.5%	1.6%	513
Unpaid family worker	2.5%	2.9%	1.2%	792
Not specified	3.8%	3.6%	4.3%	273
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	324

Source: INEGI, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

* Sex ratio: Number of males to every 100 females.

Annex 12

Percentage breakdown of the working population of the Mexican Republic by sex according to monthly earnings

Monthly earnings	Working population	Male	Female
No earned income	7.2%	8.6%	2.8%
Less than 1 times MW	19.3%	18.4%	22.4%
From 1 to 2 times MW	36.7%	34.8%	42.7%
More than 2 and less than 3 times MW	15.1%	15.3%	14.6%
From 3 to 5 times MW	9.8%	10.2%	8.3%
More than 5 times MW	7.6%	8.4%	5.0%
Not specified	4.3%	4.3%	4.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: INEGI, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Note: MW = Minimum wage.

Annex 13

Percentage breakdown of the working population of the Mexican Republic by monthly income according to sex

Monthly earnings	Working population	Male	Female
No earned income	100.0%	90.9%	9.1%
Less than 1 times MW	100.0%	72.6%	27.4%
From 1 to 2 times MW	100.0%	72.5%	27.5%
More than 2 and less than 3 times MW	100.0%	77.2%	22.8%
From 3 to 5 times MW	100.0%	80.1%	19.9%
More than 5 times MW	100.0%	84.5%	15.5%
Not specified	100.0%	77.1%	22.9%
Total	100.0%	76.0%	24.0%

Source: INEGI, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Note: MW = Minimum wage.

ARTICLE 12. HEALTH

178. As was stated in the first periodic report of Mexico, the principle of protection and care of the health of the population, both male and female, is embodied in article 4 of the Political Constitution of Mexico.

179. It is important to point out in this connection that during the economic recession the social spending policy had a particularly marked effect on the quality and extent of public-health services available to a large proportion of the country's low-income population. The Government did, however, designate a total of 7,692,351 million pesos for the National Health Programme in 1989, the major share (6,703,000 million pesos) being allocated to curative care. Of that sum, 84 per cent was earmarked for beneficiaries under the schemes operated by the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), the Government Employee Social Security and Services Institute (ISSSTE) and the National Scheme for Comprehensive Family Development (DIF), the remaining 16 per cent being set aside for other claimants covered by the IMSS, and for the medical services of the Federal District authority and those provided directly by the Department of Health.

180. By 1991, the proportion of the total population not covered by or not formally enrolled with one of the public-health institutions named in the previous paragraph had fallen to 15 per cent.

181. An analysis of the situation reveals that working-class urban women are the main users of the out-patient facilities of the health-care institutions. By way of example, within the services provided just by the Department of Health, such women account for 66 per cent of all out-patient visits.

182. For this reason, the National Women and Health Programme (PRONAMUSA) was designed and implemented in Mexico in January 1984 as part of the Five-Year Regional Plan of Action for Women in Health and Development introduced in several States members of the Pan-American Health Organization. Responsibility for the application of the Programme, which was transformed into the "Women, Health and Development" Programme in 1989, rests with the Office for Maternal and Child Care at the Department of Health.

183. The Women, Health and Development Programme is one of the priority projects within the National Health Programme, which covers the following areas: medical care, maternal and child care, mental health, disease and accident prevention and control, health education and promotion, nutrition, occupational health, addiction prevention and control, community-health monitoring and control, basic sanitation, environmental health, family planning, social welfare, research, human resource training and development, and health data reporting and inputting based on epidemiological behaviour of groups at risk.

184. In line with the policies formulated by the Ministry of Health, the Women, Health and Development Programme seeks to identify and reduce health risks, and to provide information and training in order to promote good health in women at the various stages of their lives (childhood, adolescence, early womanhood, maturity and old age), with a view to their full incorporation into the development process and to their increasingly active participation in their communities.

185. The aims, methods and goals of the Programme entail conceptions that have far-reaching human implications and are of considerable social significance; at the same time they involve a commitment on the part of all public and private sectors of society to assist in improving the health of the population in general and of women in particular, as a basis for ensuring progress towards the nation's full development.

186. The specific aims of the Programme include the following:

- Examining and analysing current Mexican legislation relating to women's health and proposing the necessary amendments to bring about its overall improvement;

- Expanding the knowledge of health problems in the various stages and phases of a woman's life, through specific research, for dissemination with a view to providing better information and guidance for the general public;

- Encouraging the participation of women as promoters and protectors of their own health and that of their families and their communities;

- Promoting the involvement of women's organizations in the planning, implementation and evaluation of priority health projects, aimed at women;

- Studying and classifying women's health according to geographical and socio-economic variables, for which purpose each federal state will conduct its own diagnostic survey with a view to planning specific action in each case;

- Promoting and strengthening the programmes for early detection of cancer of the breast, cervix and uterus, diabetes, high blood pressure and other physical or mental problems affecting women, with a view to reducing the number of advanced cases reported to the health institutions;

- Developing nutritional support through the provision of supplementary guidance on diet at the various stages of a woman's life cycle.

Scope of application and geographical coverage of the Women, Health and Development Programme

187. The Women, Health and Development Programme operates nationwide, i.e. in all 32 federal states, through the institutions of the national health system.

188. In 1990, the Programme included a nationwide research study, which was published under the title of "La salud de la mujer en México, cifras comentadas" ["The health of women in Mexico: statistics with commentary"]. The book presents a profile of the standards of health of the female population and constitutes both a source of reference for the preparation of health promotion activities and a vehicle for the dissemination of data and information on population, marriage and fertility rates, maternal mortality, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), elderly women and indigenous women.

189. In 1992, various studies and surveys were grouped together and published under the title of "La mujer adolescente, adulta, anciana y su salud" ["Young, adult and elderly women and their health"] with the aim of highlighting the health-care needs of women at the three crucial stages of their lives by presenting a profile of health in adolescence, maturity and old age and the major problems encountered.

Health problems

190. The specific aims of the Programme, as referred to in previous paragraphs, are intended to address various areas of concern that still exist in regard to the status of women, including problems of underprivileged, indigenous and rural women, whose lack of schooling and very poor standards of housing and nutrition mean an increased risk of maternal mortality. In the large towns, poverty, which affects women and is a cause of their malnutrition, gives rise to yet another area of concern to be dealt with, namely the problems of cruelty within the family, physical assault, sexual abuse, and the glorification of violence, which place women at a great disadvantage. This topic is discussed elsewhere in the present report.

191. A further cause of concern is adolescent pregnancy, which results in unwanted children born to immature mothers who are unaware of the responsibilities of motherhood, abortions performed on adolescents who are ignorant of the physical and psychological consequences involved, malnourished and low-weight babies whose life expectancy is consequently minimal and - if they survive - underdeveloped children of limited human capacity.

192. The reasons why adolescent girls become exposed to the risk of pregnancy stem from a variety of factors such as promiscuity, overcrowding, loss of parental authority, abandonment, inexperience in gauging the risk, peer pressure and imitation of the behavioural patterns of "modern" society, which frequently includes other harmful conduct such as alcohol and drug abuse. Further factors are inadequate sex education and information, as well as other asepcts that vary according to the social environment in which the young people develop.

193. The problem is exacerbated in the case of teenage girls who come from poor social and economic backgrounds, since such girls are caught in a vicious circle of poverty and cultural deprivation, which increases their personal insecurity and diminishes their prospects for social and economic betterment.

194. The problem of adolescent or early pregnancy is harming the populations not only of developing countries but also of the most developed countries. Although the view exists that the early commencement of sexual activity is directly linked to cultural and economic environment, the increase in teenage pregnancies in many countries justifies the need for the problem to be discussed and studied further, with emphasis on the influence exerted by advances made in the mass media industry.

195. With regard to the biophysiological risks, adolescent pregnancies appear to increase the likelihood of complications, including toxaemia, anaemia, haemorrhaging, cephalo-pelvic disproportion, premature birth and protracted labour.

196. As regards the psychological aspects, adolescent pregnancies are a cause of stress, since teenage mothers are more vulnerable because of their immaturity; they tend to suffer loneliness and to feel trapped as they face their future; they lose their self-esteem and are overwhelmed by the uncertainty of being able to cope with motherhood. It has also been observed that the children of teenage mothers figure among the population sector that runs a high risk of physical abuse, neglect, malnutrition and retarded development; such children subsequently develop school-related problems and ultimately turn to juvenile delinquency; in short, the outward manifestations of their rejection at birth.

197. Pregnancies among these age groups are in some cases intentional, the mother wishing to receive care and attention. However, surveys carried out have shown that approximately 70 per cent of premarital pregnancies among adolescents are unintended.

198. In order to provide a representative sample to illustrate the situation prevailing in Mexico, an analysis has been made of the 1989 records of three institutions within the national health system, namely the IMSS, the ISSSTE and the State oil agency PEMEX.

199. There were 1,295 reported pregnancies among girls under 15 years of age, a factor that in itself constitutes a gestational risk, the five main causes of complications being:

- Complicated or obstructed births: 31.12 per cent;
- Miscarriages: 7.10 per cent;
- Premature births: 6.17 per cent;
- Haemorrhages during pregnancy or labour: 3.70 per cent;
- Toxaemia: 3.24 per cent.

200. Within this age group, complications were noted in 56.83 per cent of pregnancies and deliveries, including the puerperium, while 43.16 per cent of births were normal.

201. The statistical findings, as summarized above, have led to the conclusion that maternal morbidity in this age group is still a serious public health problem that requires the participation of various institutions with appropriate coordination, in order to make better use of the existing health-care facilities. Several proposals have been put forward for improving standards of health among adolescent girls, including:

- Fostering good intra-family communications, with the guidance necessary to ensure a proper and responsible approach to sexual activity;
- Introducing sex education programmes from school age;
- Promoting, where required, the use of safe forms of contraception, with extensive information on responsible contraceptive use;

- Promoting legal protection;
- Providing information on medical welfare assistance to which young women are entitled;
- Encouraging community involvement in health education;
- Intensifying research into pregnancy and the related risks;
- Providing nutritional guidance;
- Adjusting behavioural patterns and increasing the social, cultural and sports activities of young people.

AIDS

202. An important aspect in the analysis and care of women's health is the incidence of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

203. For this reason, at the time of presentation of the first periodic report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women it was stated, in reply to one of the questions raised by the Committee's experts, that the Government of Mexico had been pursuing a variety of measures to prevent and deal with AIDS since 1986, in which year it established the National Committee for AIDS Prevention, which was subsequently transformed into the National Council for AIDS Prevention and Control (CONASIDA).

204. The tasks of CONASIDA are to promote, support and coordinate the activities of the public, private and social sectors aimed at combating AIDS, and to liaise with institutions that carry out work concerned with investigating, preventing and controlling AIDS. In particular, CONASIDA promotes and organizes the dissemination of information on AIDS prevention and treatment as part of the health education programmes.

205. With the same aim, the impact of AIDS on the female population has been included in the Women, Health and Development Programme as one of the priority issues to be considered in the study of the general situation regarding the health of Mexican women.

206. According to the 1992 publication "Young, adult and elderly women and their health", referred to above, the characteristics of the incidence of AIDS at each of the stages in a woman's life are as described below.

207. Adolescents cannot be excluded from AIDS prevention and guidance programmes, since "this new form of illness, which is transmitted sexually, through the blood or from mother to infant, has also occurred in young people".

208. Available data indicate that, of the 8,720 cases of AIDS notified to the Office of Epidemiology up to October 1991 (table No. 1, annex 1), 13.5 per cent (1,175) occurred in young persons between 15 and 24 years of age. This is an extremely disturbing phenomenon if one bears in mind that the period of incubation of the disease is between one and eight or nine years, which would mean that those young people probably became infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) during their teens or even in childhood.

209. While it has been possible to make an impact on the number of cases of infection transmitted via the blood, through amendments to the relevant articles of the General Health Act making HIV testing compulsory on all blood transfusions and banning the sale of blood plasma, it has nevertheless not been possible to reduce the risk of sexual transmission.

210. Of the cases detected up to 1991 (8,720), 1,273 were in women, representing 14.48 per cent of the total cases or a ratio of 6.9 to 1. Since the ratio for 1988-1989 was one woman to every 24 men suffering from AIDS, the 1991 ratio is causing specialists to believe that, if the increase continues, women can be expected to account for one quarter of all AIDS victims in the near future.

211. The magnitude of the problem has led to the establishment (in September 1990) of the first centre for the detection of acquired immunodeficiency virus and sexually transmitted diseases that specializes in women.

212. In Mexico, most AIDS cases, in both men and women, are found in the age group from 22 to 44 years, at 5,748 sufferers (66 per cent approximately), followed by the 45-64 group, at 1,260 cases (14 per cent approximately).

213. AIDS has also affected older persons. According to the above-mentioned records to 1991, 113 cases have been detected in persons over 65 years old; in this age group, the ratio is three men to every woman.

214. It is important to bear in mind that the statistics quoted in the previous paragraphs, which appear in the publication referred to above, relate to AIDS sufferers and not to AIDS-infected persons. If we recall that the World Health Organization estimates that for every sufferer there are 50 to 100 infected persons, the number of people who potentially could be infected can be thus calculated, which gives some indication of the extent of the disease and the seriousness of the problem.

215. These same studies show that, in the case of Mexican women, blood transfusions were the main source of HIV transmission prior to 1986, in which year the reforms were made to the General Health Act. However, an increase in sexually transmitted HIV is expected, this being currently the medium of transmission in 34 per cent of women's cases (see table No. 2, annex 2).

216. Unlike in other countries, where HIV and hence AIDS are transmitted through intravenous drug use with a high incidence among women, the rate of infection by such means is extremely low in Mexico, with only three cases having been recorded, these being in young women.

Family planning

217. The entire population, without distinction as to sex, has access to information on family planning. In this connection, the Department of Health, the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS) and the Government Employee Social Security and Services Institute (ISSSTE), inter alia, are taking a variety of steps aimed at increasing the availability and improving the quality of family-planning services, especially in the country's rural and indigenous areas.

218. Both the IMSS and the ISSSTE include among their priority lines of action an extension of health-care, sexual-guidance and family-planning services for the adolescent population.

Annex 1

Table No. 1

AIDS cases by age and sex
Mexico

Age	Cumulative number of cases up to 31 October 1991						Rate*			Male/ female ratio
	Male		Female		Total					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	M	F	T	
Under 15	185	2.5	92	7.3	277	3.2	11.6	5.9	8.8	2/1
15 to 24	999	13.4	176	13.9	1,175	13.5	116.3	21.0	69.2	6/1
25 to 44	4,991	66.9	757	59.9	5,748	65.9	533.0	81.7	308.5	7/1
45 to 64	1,066	14.3	194	15.4	1,260	14.4	265.0	64.6	154.0	5/1
65 and over	84	1.1	29	2.3	113	1.3	68.1	19.9	42.0	3/1
Not known	132	1.8	15	1.2	147	1.7	-	-	-	9/1
TOTAL	7,457	100.0	1,263	100.0	8,720	100.0	190.5	32.6	111.9	6/1

* Rate per 1,000,000 inhabitants.

Annex 2

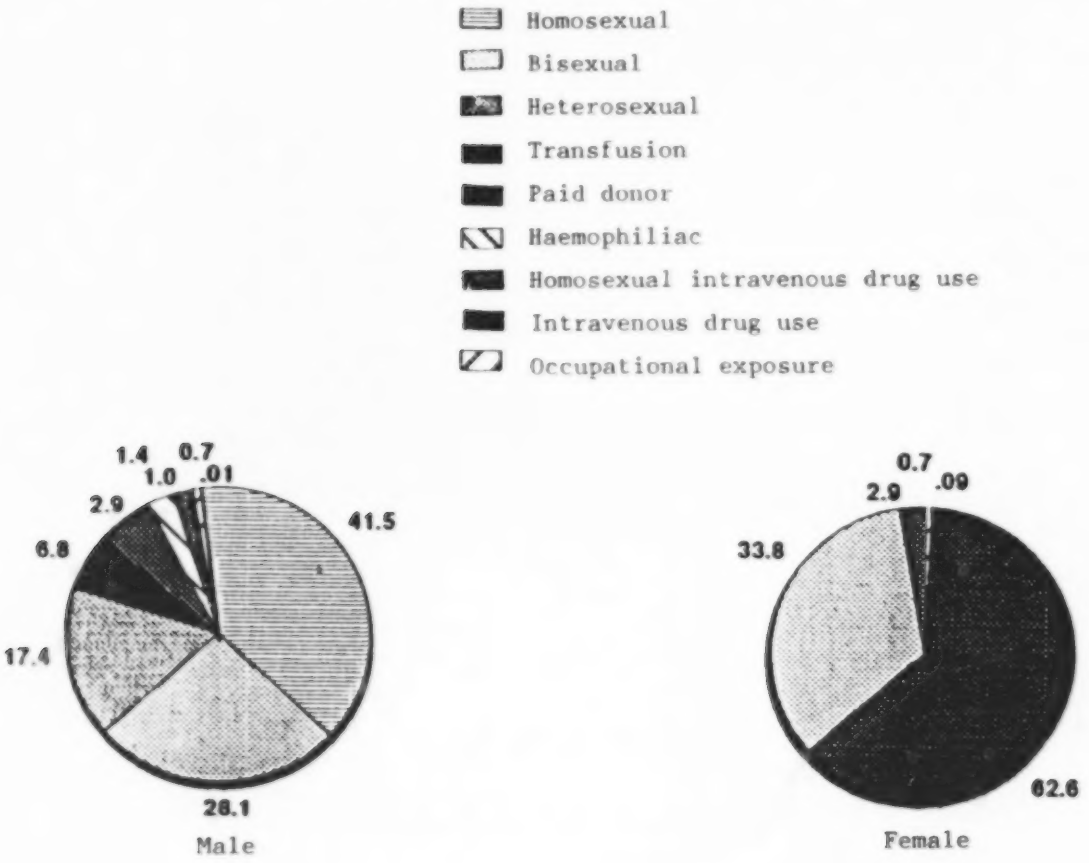
Table No. 2

Cumulative cases of AIDS in Mexico up to 31 October 1991:
Tranmission categories by age group in women

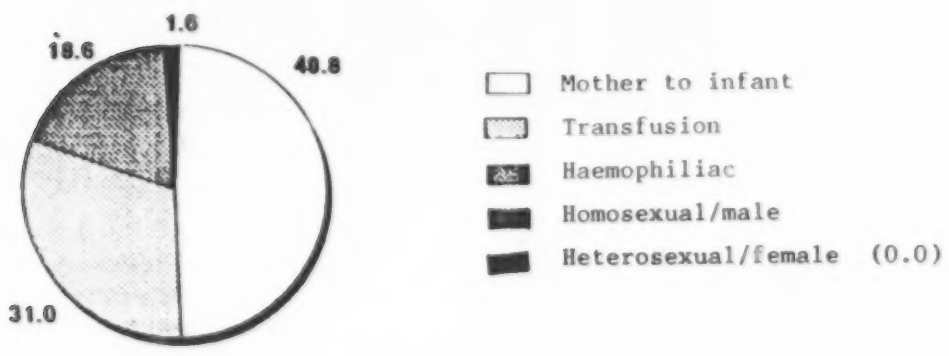
	Heterosexual		Transfusion		Paid donor		Occupational Exposure		Mother to infant		Intravenous drug use		Undocumented		Total	
Age group	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 15	0	0.0	30	32.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	59	64.1	0	0.0	3	3.3	92	100.0
15 to 24	73	41.5	81	46.0	4	2.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.1	16	9.1	176	100.0
25 to 44	229	30.3	428	56.5	21	2.8	1	0.1	0	0.0	4	0.5	74	9.8	757	100.0
45 to 64	41	21.1	118	60.8	5	2.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	30	15.5	194	100.0
65 and over	5	17.2	20	69.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	13.8	29	100.0
Unknown	4	26.7	5	33.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	6.7	5	33.3	15	100.0
TOTAL	352	27.9	682	54.0	30	2.4	1	0.1	59	4.7	7	0.6	132	10.5	1,263	100.0

STATISTICS FOR MEXICO AS AT 31 OCTOBER 1991

Categories of transmission in adults

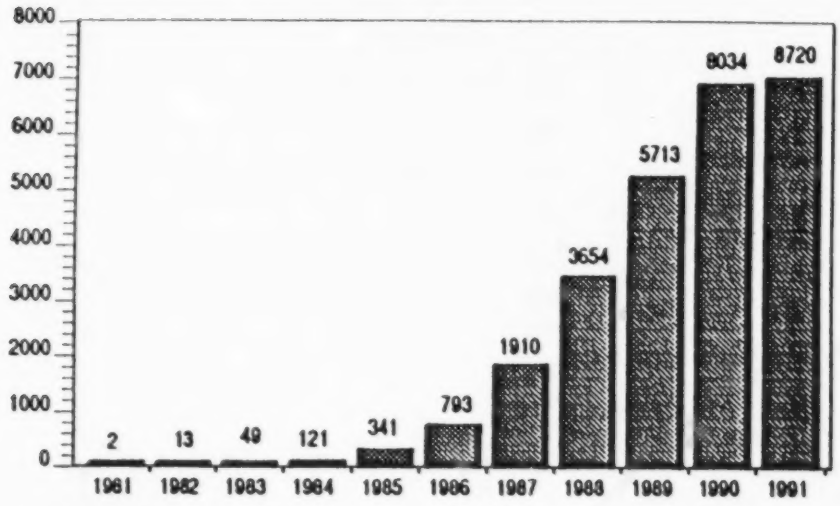


Categories of transmission in paediatric cases

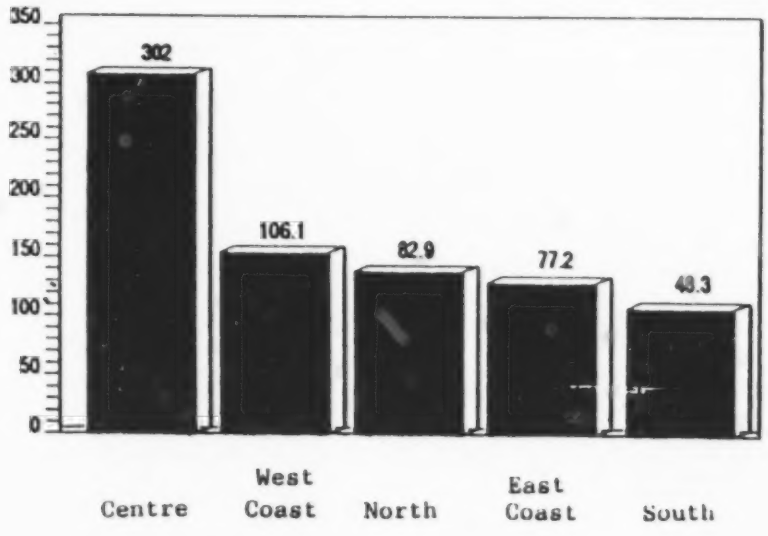


STATISTICS FOR MEXICO AS AT 31 OCTOBER 1991

Cumulative incidence by date of onset



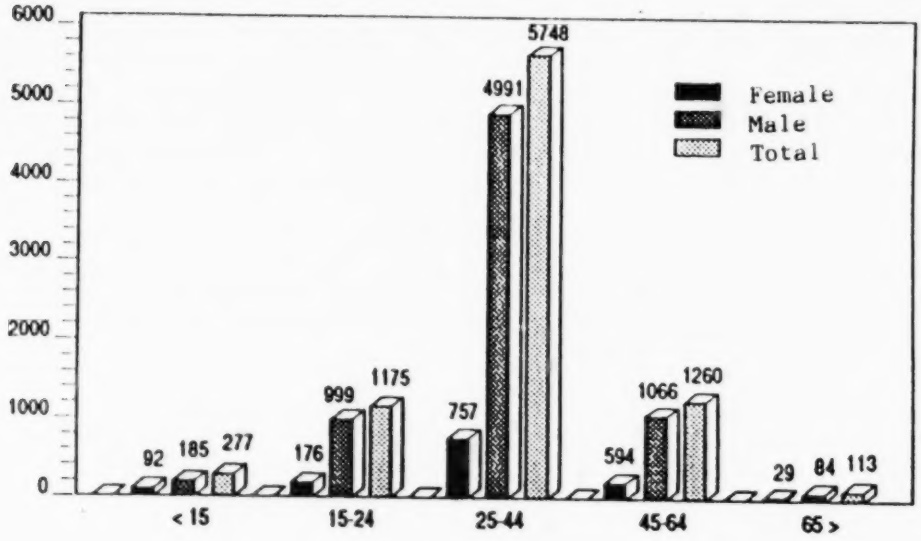
Geographical region



Rate per 1,000,000 inhabitants

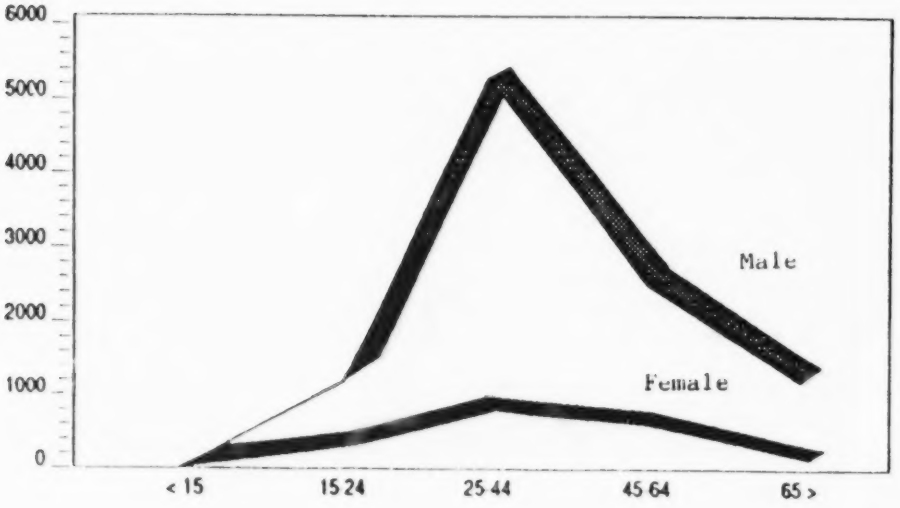
STATISTICS FOR MEXICO AS AT 31 OCTOBER 1991

Age and sex



Age group

Geographical region



Rate per 1,000,000 inhabitants

ARTICLE 14. WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS

219. According to the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, Mexico's rural population 1/ resides in a total of 154,016 localities (98.3 per cent of all localities in the country) and comprises 23,289,924 persons in all (28.7 per cent of the total national population), of whom 50.2 per cent are male and 49.8 per cent are female (see annex 1).

220. The census figures show that, in relative terms, the rural population fell between 1970 and 1990 from 41.4 to 28.7 per cent of the total national population. However, in absolute figures, Mexico's rural population has increased, rising from 19,916,682 in 1970 to 23,289,924 in 1990 (see annex 2).

221. According to this same information source, and as already mentioned in the first section of this report, the federal states with a large percentage of rural population are Oaxaca, Chiapas, Hidalgo, Zacatecas, Tabasco, Guerrero, San Luis Potosí, Veracruz, Durango, Querétaro, Michoacán, Nayarit, Guanajuato, Sinaloa and Puebla.

222. According to the statistics for 1987 published by the Advisory Board to the National Solidarity Programme, some 41.3 million of the country's inhabitants (50.9 per cent of the total national population) were living in conditions of poverty or extreme poverty, a sizeable proportion of them in rural areas. These statistics show that 80 per cent of the people employed in agricultural and livestock-raising activities came from poor households, one half of them in circumstances of extreme poverty.

223. In this context of rural poverty, the indigenous population, migrant workers, smallholders in seasonal zones and inhabitants of desert areas constitute the social groups that are surviving in the worst conditions, and within those groups it is the women and children who are most affected.

224. Faced with diminishing standards of living in rural areas, the peasant-farming family units living in situations of poverty or extreme poverty have been forced to diversify their production activities in order to ensure their economic survival.

225. This diversification of activities, which is conditioned by the norms of gender- and age-based division of labour that structure the production and social reproduction patterns of the peasant-farming family units, has caused rural women to modify their own participation, both quantitatively and qualitatively.

226. It should be pointed out in this connection that, despite the importance attaching to the participation of women in the nation's agricultural and livestock production, there are to date very few statistical data quantifying women's economic contribution to rural development.

227. This fact is illustrated by the census undercounting that has occurred in connection with women's participation in the primary sector of the economy. According to the data compiled in the Eleventh General Population

and Housing Census, a mere 3.46 per cent of all economically active females are employed in the agricultural, animal-husbandry, forestry and fishing sector.

228. Similarly, with regard to the quantification of social reproduction activities undertaken by rural women, the dearth of information is even more serious, particularly since such tasks contribute significantly to the social well-being of the peasant-farming family units. These activities include the processing and preparation of food, the nurturing and upbringing of children, the provision of paramedical and emotional care, social arrangements with other families and the community, and the organization of community rituals, and ceremonies, which activities, according to data produced by the National Programme for Women in Solidarity, can mean that a rural woman's domestic working day sometimes amounts to as much as 11.5 hours.

229. One point that needs to be stressed is the fact that the ways in which rural women respond to the effects of rural poverty are not identical but vary according to the woman's life-cycle phase and to whether or not she is a migrant and belongs to a specific ethnic group.

230. Whether or not a woman belongs to a specific ethnic group is a prime factor to be taken into account in order to understand women's participation in the rural sector, since their participation is determined by the set of cultural norms and practices of the particular group to which they belong. For example, solitary migration of rural women is more common among mixed-race females than among indigenous females, who generally migrate with their families.

231. In view of the above, three main groups of rural women can currently be identified in Mexico: (A) non-migrant adult women, (B) non-migrant young women and (C) adult and young migrant women.

A. Non-migrant adult women:

232. At the present time, an increasing participation of adult women with children can be observed in agricultural and livestock production activities. This increase is even more noticeable in the poorest rural regions, where most of the other adult members of the family unit - husband, sons and daughters - migrate temporarily or permanently in search of employment opportunities.

233. In this connection, adult women with children who live in the country's poorest rural areas, faced with the diminishing purchasing power of their families and communities, have been forced to substantially increase their own participation in agricultural and livestock-rearing activities, which are in addition to their traditional tasks in the sphere of social reproduction and which have led to a feminization of smallholding agriculture.

234. Adult women, who are at the forefront of family-based agricultural production, are in many instances the victims of unfair treatment by the people who control the markets or who enforce and monitor compliance with the statutory provisions relating to communal landholdings and agrarian matters.

heads of families. This opposition is evident from the low number of women in the country who are currently recognized as smallholders. At the present time, only 15 per cent of all smallholders and communal holders of land rights are women. This situation is directly linked to rural women's lack of access to credit, a situation that has a direct bearing on their status as farmers.

236. This greater vulnerability of women compared to men is directly linked to the fact that women in this group generally have lower levels of schooling than their male counterparts and many such women are illiterate. According to the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 62.59 per cent of the country's total illiterate population is female and 72.84 per cent of all illiterate females are over 30 years old.

237. Their vulnerable condition is more pronounced in the case of Indian women, since members of this indigenous population group are in many cases monolingual. According to statistics compiled from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 15.83 per cent of the country's total inhabitants (population aged over five years) who speak an indigenous language are monolingual, and 64.37 per cent of this total are women.

238. Also, among the survival strategies adopted by the poorest rural families, the practice of small-scale livestock raising - essentially involving sheep and a few head of cattle - is increasing. Such activities require only a small labour force and are consequently the responsibility of the women, young children and elderly. These activities are in addition to the traditional practices of rearing farmyard animals and of cultivating vegetable gardens and orchards.

239. As has been indicated by national research studies, in a number of federal states including Aguascalientes, Chiapas, Tlaxcala, Jalisco, Michoacán, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Yucatán and Mexico State, subcontracted home-based or "maquila" activities have been expanding considerably, providing the inhabitants of rural areas, particularly women, with a major source of income for the survival of peasant-farming family units. Women engaged in such work perform handicrafts, sew and weave garments and produce other household items.

240. Women's increasing participation in agricultural and livestock production and their integration into subcontracted out-work labour networks are in addition to the social reproduction tasks traditionally performed by adult women with children, which in effect means an increase in their daily workload. For example, in the northern part of the state of Veracruz, women perform between seven and eight hours of agricultural work, plus a further 11.5 hours of domestic duties, thus making a total working day of between 17 and 18 hours.

241. In many instances, these latter duties are carried out without the availability of adequate technological domestic inputs, such as gas or corn-grinding equipment, and without water supplies, electricity, roads and local markets in particular.

242. According to data gathered in the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, over 30 per cent of the entire population in the states of

243. The census data also show that, in the states of Guerrero, Tabasco, Chiapas and Oaxaca, 43.1, 41.7, 41.6 and 41.9 per cent respectively of all the households surveyed in each of these states had no mains water supply, which means that women and children are obliged to fetch water from community standpipes or from nearby rivers.

B. Non-migrant young women:

244. Opportunities available to young rural Mexicans for obtaining land and/or employment are scarce, and many such people, both male and female, the latter in a high proportion, find themselves forced to join the rural-urban and rural-rural migratory flows in search of better job prospects.

245. Young women who do not migrate have been entering the wage-earning employment market at a rapid rate since the beginning of the 1970s, taking jobs in local agro-industries or in rural manufacturing, as is illustrated by various case studies conducted in Mexico and Latin America.

246. The agro-industries that manufacture commercial agricultural products, primarily for export, are opening up a major labour market for young women. According to the data compiled in the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 18.71 per cent of all economically active females working in the agricultural, animal-husbandry, forestry and fishing sector are salaried employees or wage-earners, while the corresponding proportion of the economically active male population working in this sector is 8.40 per cent (see annex 3).

247. This phenomenon occurs predominantly in the states to the north of the country, such as Sinaloa and Baja California, the proportion of women working as salaried employees or wage-earners in the agricultural, animal-husbandry, forestry and fishing sector in these states being 19.15 and 34.46 per cent respectively (see annex 3).

248. Young women's entry into the agro-industrial labour force has brought them certain advantages. Case studies conducted in 1988 on a second generation of female workers in the strawberry agro-industry in Michoacán highlight the fact that these workers have acquired greater financial independence and their places of employment - unlike their own homes and communities - provide them with opportunities for socializing and exchanging experiences, all of which is gradually beginning to manifest itself in new patterns of behaviour in male-female gender relationships.

249. In those federal states where no agro-industrial labour market exists, rural manufacturing represents a new alternative form of employment for many young rural men and women. This is primarily the case in the country's western and central states, such as Aguascalientes, Tlaxcala, Jalisco, Michoacán and Guanajuato in particular.

C. Adult and young migrant women:

250. It can be said that, in Mexico, as in most Latin American countries and unlike in Africa for example, it is women - both adult and young - who are the predominant participants in migratory flows.

251. Statistics from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census indicate that, at the national level, there are 92.5 male migrants to every 100 female migrants. The ratio varies from one state to another; for example, in the states of Durango, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Mexico State, Michoacán, Morelos, Nayarit and Querétaro, the proportion of migrant males to every 100 females fluctuates between 84 and 89.4.

252. Also, an examination of the sex ratios for those localities in the country that have less than 2,500 inhabitants shows that there are 101 male residents to every 100 female residents, while the sex ratio at the national level is 96.5 to every 100, and in localities having more than 1 million inhabitants, the ratio is 94.6 to every 100; hence, the smaller the locality and the more rural its location, the greater the number of migrant women (see annex 4).

253. To understand the predominance of females in rural migratory flows, account must be taken of the internal economic factors of the peasant-farming household and the cultural factors that limit the rural female population's opportunities for acquiring rights of land use. Because of these restrictions, women are the first to leave their communities in search of employment opportunities.

254. In addition to the economic and cultural factors that encourage female migration, there is the attraction of the expanding employment markets in both rural and urban areas, where there is a demand for female labour.

255. In the towns and cities, women take up work in the service sector, where they are employed essentially as domestic workers. According to data compiled in the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 581,414 women work as domestic employees, representing 10.53 per cent of the total economically active female population at the national level. It should be mentioned that many of these women who migrate to urban areas also enter the informal sector of the economy.

256. In the course of the 1980s, the expansion of commercial and export agriculture created a major employment market for the rural population, which women are entering at a rapid rate.

257. This trend towards the increasing employment of women as day labourers in paid agricultural work is apparent from the statistics compiled from the Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, according to which 45.08 per cent of all economically active females in the agricultural, animal-husbandry, forestry and fishing sector are employed as unskilled or day labourers, while the proportion of all males working in this sector of the economy is 31.98 per cent (see annex 3).

258. Although it is difficult to know the precise present-day number of female labourers, according to a survey conducted by the National Solidarity Programme with agricultural labourers in Valle de Culiacán in the state of Sinaloa during January 1992, that area's total economically active population comprised 32.8 per cent women, 49.2 per cent men and 18 per cent children. Also in Sinaloa, where commercial and export agriculture is the predominant activity, 71.60 per cent of all economically active females in the

259. Vegetable growing, market gardening and flower cultivation are the occupations that absorb most female labour at the present time. The types of jobs performed by women depend on their socio-demographic profile, i.e., their age, marital status, educational attainment and national and ethnic origin.

260. A case study carried out in the state of Sinaloa in the market-gardening industry shows that it is married and illiterate or poorly educated women who generally perform the most strenuous work - such as picking, which can sometimes entail a working day of between 18 and 20 hours - and who work the least months per year in return for a wage to support their family and during the remainder of the time perform family and social reproduction tasks.

261. These women are usually the wives of labourers and their wages are regarded as "supplementary" to that of their husbands. According to the study carried out in Sinaloa, the woman's income is allocated entirely to family expenditure while the husband's earnings are only partly used to meet the family's needs.

262. Young female labourers, who are generally unmarried and better educated, hold better employment positions, have a knowledge of the labour market and move more freely within it, which enables them to obtain greater job security and better wage conditions.

263. These young women work as packers and graders in the agro-industries, alongside non-migrant female employees. Depending on the level of saturation of the labour market and the degree of modernization of the production process, they sometimes also participate in activities carried out directly on the land.

264. Migrant women's living conditions are very difficult. For those who are married with children, the itinerant nature of their family life means that their home has no fixed base and that their social reproduction tasks have to be performed in situations of great adversity.

265. For young female labourers, itinerant work means that they have no family environment or job security and are under constant physical and mental strain. It should be pointed out that this group has been found to include a significant number of unmarried mothers, a product of the pressures and sexual assaults to which these women are exposed.

266. In conclusion, it can be said that rural women in Mexico are a key element in the survival strategies of peasant-farming families. Through their participation in agricultural or livestock production, commercial farming operations, agro-industries and micro-industries, they are active contributors to the economic and social processes of the rural sector.

267. Action on the part of the Government of Mexico that is aimed specifically at rural women has focused primarily on the establishment of production projects to promote the economic participation of the rural female population. This has been in response to rural women's demands for additional sources of income that will contribute to the survival of their families and communities.

268. The first government programme that specifically targeted rural women was introduced in 1971. During that year, a system of women's industrial-agricultural units (UAIM) was set up under the Federal Agrarian Reform Act. This is a partnership-based scheme whose central objective is to promote the productive development of agricultural sites through rural women's involvement in the economy, for which purpose the farming communities or "ejidos" are required to grant plots of land to the women. In 1979, to encourage the development of these units, the UAIMs were recognized as qualified borrowers under the terms of the General Rural Loans Act.

269. At the present time, according to information from the Office for Rural Women's Organization at the Department of Agrarian Reform, there are approximately 6,300 UAIMs in Mexico. The experiences of these units have not been entirely favourable. In 1991, according to the land records in the Department of Agrarian Reform, 35.5 per cent of all the registered UAIMs were active, 50.3 per cent were inactive, 3.9 per cent had disappeared, 7.2 per cent were never started up, and there is no information in existence on the remaining 3 per cent. This means that 61.4 per cent of all the units set up are not operating.

270. The failure of most of the country's UAIMs is due to the following factors:

- Refusal by male landholders to make over the plots on which the units were to be set up;

- Lack of technical and administrative advice to the units' partners on how to formulate economically viable production projects;

- Lack of financial support, and excessive borrowing by many of the units;

- Lack of effective management capability on the part of the women involved in the projects, who in most instances took part without really being aware of what they entailed; and

- Lack of technical assistance, and the application of an organizational model that was not appropriate to the specific gender situation.

271. To rectify some of the shortcomings outlined above, the Office for Rural Women's Organization at the Department of Agrarian Reform has since December 1991 been receiving substantial financial and administrative support for the purpose of assisting those UAIMs and other rural women's partnerships that so request, in the areas of training and technical assistance only. Between December 1991 and March 1992, the Office has been provided with an additional budget of 40,000 million pesos to undertake these activities. At present, a total of 286 women's groups are receiving support and the cases of some 600 groups are scheduled for review.

272. As regards action directed at the country's indigenous female population, from the findings of a self-diagnosis study prepared by the National Institute for Indigenous Peoples (INI) in 1991, it has to be acknowledged that the measures so far undertaken for and with indigenous women

in the country have not been based on a gender conception that would make it possible to implement effective comprehensive action geared to the actual situation of Indian women in the country.

273. Most production projects involving indigenous women have centred on handicraft activities, which frequently encounter problems of market saturation.

274. In this connection, to overcome the shortcomings referred to above, the INI has set up the Indigenous Women's Programme, which proposes that the strategy to be adopted for working with and for indigenous women should entail the implementation of production and social projects accompanied by discussions on gender issues and problems of ethnic identity.

275. The Programme also states that inter-institutional coordination between governmental and non-governmental organizations is essential to avoid duplication of action and dissipation of effort.

Annex 1

Percentage breakdown of the urban and rural population by sex

	Rural population*		Urban population		Total	
Sex	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Male	11,700,468	50.2	28,193,501	48.6	39,893,969	49.1
Female	11,589,456	49.8	29,766,220	51.4	41,355,676	50.9
Total	23,289,924	100.0	57,959,721	100.0	81,249,645	100.0

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

* Population in localities of less than 2,500 inhabitants.

Annex 2

Percentage breakdown of localities and population of the Republic of Mexico by size of locality

Size of locality	Number of localities	Percentage	Population	Percentage
1-99	108,307	69.2	2,190,339	2.7
100-499	32,244	20.6	7,760,320	9.6
500-999	8,515	5.4	5,922,495	7.3
1,000-2,499	4,950	3.2	7,416,770	9.1
2,500-4,999	1,364	0.9	4,647,566	5.8
5,000-9,999	609	0.4	4,266,294	5.2
10,000-19,999	293	0.2	4,086,017	5.0
20,000-49,999	167	0.1	5,075,188	6.2
50,000-99,999	55	-	3,854,850	4.7
100,000-499,999	77	-	18,233,313	22.4
500,000 and over	21	-	17,836,493	22.0
Total	156,602	100.0	81,249,645	100.0

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 3

Percentage breakdown of the economically active population in the agricultural, animal-husbandry, forestry and fishing sector in the states of Oaxaca, Chiapas, Zacatecas, Veracruz, Hidalgo, Puebla, Sinaloa, Baja California, Michoacan, San Luis Potosi, Tabasco and Guerrero by sex according to employment status

FEDERAL STATE	SEX	EMPLOYMENT STATUS						
		Salaried employee or wage-earner	Unskilled or day labourer	Self-employed worker	Employer	Unpaid worker	Unspecified	Total
Oaxaca	Total	2.77	17.11	64.49	0.51	10.25	4.87	100.00
	Male	2.71	17.02	64.73	0.50	10.24	4.80	100.00
	Female	4.64	20.12	**56.71**	0.84	10.46	7.23	100.00
Chiapas	Total	3.63	18.28	63.48	0.70	8.80	5.11	100.00
	Male	3.58	18.42	63.53	0.70	8.73	5.04	100.00
	Female	5.65	12.83	**61.49**	0.89	11.57	7.57	100.00
Zacatecas	Total	7.20	20.55	49.96	1.08	14.77	6.43	100.00
	Male	6.97	20.17	50.45	1.09	14.86	6.45	100.00
	Female	18.10	**39.18**	26.05	0.72	10.03	5.91	100.00
Veracruz	Total	4.92	40.22	40.35	1.38	8.89	4.24	100.00
	Male	4.78	40.24	40.52	1.36	8.89	4.20	100.00
	Female	11.86	**39.22**	31.79	2.08	8.95	6.10	100.00
Hidalgo	Total	4.55	49.15	34.65	0.50	6.33	4.82	100.00
	Male	4.41	49.23	34.86	0.50	6.25	4.75	100.00
	Female	9.70	**46.06**	26.36	0.64	9.31	7.93	100.00
Puebla	Total	4.60	34.78	45.61	0.65	9.47	4.89	100.00
	Male	4.49	34.55	45.99	0.65	9.48	4.83	100.00
	Female	7.76	**41.21**	34.99	0.58	9.00	6.46	100.00

Annex 3 (continued)

		EMPLOYMENT STATUS						
	SEX	Salaried employee or wage-earner	Unskilled or day labourer	Self-employed worker	Employer	Unpaid worker	Unspecified	Total
a	Total	15.67	48.95	25.84	1.56	3.41	4.57	100.00
	Male	15.11	45.30	29.32	1.71	3.91	4.65	100.00
	Female	19.15	**71.60**	4.26	0.62	0.36	4.00	100.00
alifornia	Total	32.89	47.48	12.16	4.01	0.88	2.57	100.00
	Male	32.65	45.91	13.52	4.43	0.96	2.53	100.00
	Female	34.46	**57.99**	3.06	1.25	0.34	2.90	100.00
cán	Total	8.82	31.53	41.80	1.29	9.58	6.98	100.00
	Male	8.46	30.79	42.74	1.31	9.76	6.94	100.00
	Female	17.23	**48.78**	19.92	0.94	5.33	7.80	100.00
is Potosi	Total	4.77	35.43	43.85	0.82	10.17	4.96	100.00
	Male	4.62	35.45	44.01	0.81	10.18	4.93	100.00
	Female	14.21	**34.49**	33.59	1.52	9.15	7.04	100.00
o	Total	8.92	40.06	38.81	1.05	6.61	4.55	100.00
	Male	8.75	40.23	38.89	1.04	6.61	4.49	100.00
	Female	20.11	28.90	**33.37**	1.78	7.10	8.74	100.00
ro	Total	2.87	19.77	60.34	0.48	9.40	7.14	100.00
	Male	2.78	19.81	60.50	0.47	9.44	7.00	100.00
	Female	6.60	18.18	**53.80**	0.67	7.92	12.83	100.00
al total	Total	8.76	32.45	44.03	1.27	8.50	4.98	100.00
	Male	8.40	31.98	44.78	1.28	8.61	4.95	100.00
	Female	**18.71**	**45.08**	**23.82**	1.13	5.49	5.77	100.00

ource: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General ion and Housing Census, 1990.

Annex 4

Percentage breakdown of the total population and sex ratios by size of location and sex

Size of locality by number of inhabitants	SEX		S.R.*
	Male	Female	
National total	39,893,969 100.0%	41,355,676 100.0%	96.5
1 to 99	2.8%	2.6%	106.8
100 to 499	9.8%	9.3%	102.4
500 to 999	7.4%	7.2%	100.1
1,000 to 1,999	7.2%	7.0%	98.7
2,000 to 2,499	2.0%	2.0%	97.8
2,500 to 4,999	5.8%	5.7%	97.3
5,000 to 9,999	5.2%	5.2%	96.7
10,000 to 14,999	2.9%	3.0%	95.3
15,000 to 19,999	2.1%	2.1%	94.9
20,000 to 49,999	6.2%	6.3%	94.6
50,000 to 99,999	4.7%	4.8%	94.5
100,000 to 499,999	22.1%	22.7%	93.8
500,000 to 999,999	10.8%	11.1%	94.3
1,000,000 and over	10.9%	11.1%	94.6

Source: National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics, General Summary: Eleventh General Population and Housing Census, 1990.

* Sex ratio: Number of males to every 100 females.